

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Warrant out for ex-mayor Mendiola

» **3 former Rota officials, another arrested on corruption charges**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A n arrest warrant has been issued for former Rota mayor Melchor A. Mendiola, even as members of the CNMI Public Corruption and White Collar Crimes Task Force arrested yesterday morning three former Rota municipal officials and another person for alleged conspiracy to steal government properties.

Sources said Task Force members failed to serve the arrest warrant on Mendiola because the former mayor has left the CNMI. That means the arrest warrant is still active. The

warrant was issued by Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

Sources said Wiseman issued the arrest warrant against Mendiola and three other co-defendants—StaceyAnn M. Atalig,

Tina M. Atalig, and Alfred M. Apatang—for theft, theft by unlawful taking or disposition, possession or removal of government property, conspiracy to

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Alfred M. Apatang



Andrew A. Barcenas



Tina Atalig



Rowena Barcenas

Ex-wife: Mathewson ‘very unstable, abusive’

» **Ex-wife says strange behavior began when Mathewson started taking personality altering medicines**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

William Abraham Kapono Mathewson, the 36-year-old man who allegedly stabbed Dr. Francois Claassens in the neck with a fishing spear, was described by his then-wife in 2012 as “very unstable and abusive,” according to court documents.

In a handwritten statement on Sept. 24, 2012, that was submitted to the Su-

See EX-WIFE on Page 4

CMS extends hospital’s recertification to October

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center remains in tenterhooks after the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services once again put off to October 2015 its decision on the hospital’s Condition of Participation, or CoP, with Medicare.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muña disclosed this yesterday when sought for updates on CMS’ planned visit to the hospital.

Muña said that they have been waiting for the CMS visit prior to April 3 for a validation survey. She said CMS has not See CMS on Page 4



HK-Beijing creative firm to handle LibDay festivities

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor’s Office inked a memorandum of understanding yesterday with a China-based creative firm that will handle the Liberation Day festivities this year. This move is seen to boost the

CNMI’s image internationally and all of its source tourism markets.

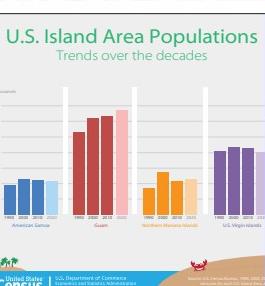
Under the terms of the agreement, Skywalker Communications Group, a leading staging and event organizing firm based in Hong Kong and Beijing, will handle the staging of the 70th Lib-

See LIBDAY on Page 4

Saipan Mayor’s Office special assistant Henry Hofschneider, far left, joins Mayor David M. Apatang in a group photo with Skywalker Communications Group managing director Hu Bo, third from left, Elvis Yu, second from right, and Blaze Yau, third from right, after inking a memorandum of understanding with the Hong Kong-based firm for 70th Liberation Day celebration.

JAYSON CAMACHO

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U.S. Census report examines population changes in the U.S. territories.

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NATION

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is convicted on all charges in the Boston Marathon bombing.

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LIFE & STYLE

“Game of Thrones” star Kit Harington is a quiet force as Jon Snow.

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Local

Military proposes leasing entire island of Pagan

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Under the two proposed alternatives for Pagan, the U.S. military is proposing to lease the en-

tire island of Pagan, according to the draft CNMI Joint Military Training Plan-Environmental

Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement.

Since there aren't any current federal lands or privately owned lands on Pagan, "the federal government would seek to acquire a real estate interest for the entire island of Pagan (approximately 11,794 acres or 4,773 hectares) from the CNMI government," the document states. "This would result in a substantial increase of acreage under federal jurisdictional control. Therefore, implementation of Pagan Alternative 1 would result in a significant impact to land use with regard to changes in jurisdictional control."

When asked about the proposed acquisition of Pagan, Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said there were discussions about the subject.

"But in terms of value and so forth, that is not on the table at all. I understand that is one that they are looking into," he said, adding that there hasn't been any detailed proposal yet.

In a separate interview, Northern Islands Mayor Jerome Aldan said his position on Pagan remains as far as live-fire training or bombing on the island concerned. He said he wants the people of the Northern Islands to resettle Pagan.

Aldan said he would be sending a letter to call for a separate public hearing with the people of the Northern Islands.

"I urge people—aside from those from the Northern Islands—but also the CNMI as a whole to be present at all public hearings and say something about this," he said.

The military views Pagan as a

remote, difficult-to-reach island with no infrastructure or usable docking facilities, despite the establishment of homesteads in accordance with the CNMI Constitution and implementing statutes that had been approved.

However, due to lack of funding, no deeds have been given. The U.S. government controls no land on Pagan. The CNMI Department of Public Lands is mandated to manage the land for "economic development and the benefit of the indigenous population."

The military also views Pagan as uninhabited per the latest U.S. Census.

The military proposes training within the High Hazard Impact Area under alternative 1, but this would not be com-

patible with the existing conservation land use. Therefore, alternative 1 operations would result in a significant impact to the conservation land use.

The CNMI Public Land Use Plan was prepared after the evacuation of Pagan when there was no permanent population present. This was prepared in 1989. In 2013 DPL created a five-year land use plan for Pagan, but has not selected any of the three potential land use plan options.

CJMT hearing on Capital Hill

On April 8, 2015, members of the 19th Legislature, some government officials, and the Administration met with the CJMT Technical Committee for a briefing on the CJMT.

This provided the opportunity to pay back looming debt.

TO PAY BACK LOOMING DEBT

CUC aims to renew customer surcharge

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

paying off the deferred \$4.32 million by October next year.

CDA can seek immediate board action from CUC in the event they do not pay their dividend payments, according to CUC counsel James Sirok, who updated the CUC board this week.

"If we don't do that, the other alternative that they have is to take over the position they have as a preferred stock holder," Sirok said. "One of the remedies they have... is to take over the management of CUC. They can either do that by asking the court to put a receiver in" or have CDA manage the utility."

Board director David Sablan Jr. asked if this takeover was "legally enforceable." Sirok indicated it was.

CDA is a preferred stockholder, he clarified. Preferred stockholders have some right to management of the corporate entity, Sirok said.

"Bottom line—as of Oct. 1 next year—we will owe them \$4.32 million," Sirok said. "The surcharge we are proposing will collect about four-and-a-half million dollars, on that two cents [charged]."

CUC rate consultant Dan Jackson said that CUC "needs to continue the .02 surcharge to pay off CDA or risk" takeover.

He noted this debt is a "liability" that hampers CUC's ability to borrow money.

He noted that renewing the charge, "from a practical standpoint, rate-payment won't change."

"Bottom line, net impact would be no change in ratepayers' monthly bills," he said.

The board directors voted to go before CPUC to renew and rename the charge. The motion to vote included a public information campaign to inform customers of this change.

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Hotel agrees to pay more than \$117K in back wages

Saipan Hotel Corp., which operates the Grandvrio Resort, has agreed to pay \$117,000 in back wages to 84 employees, according to the Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor.

In a statement yesterday, the division said the company has also agreed to develop a compliance action plan to ensure adherence to the Fair Labor Standards Act in the future.

The investigation findings showed that the employer failed

McDonald's to donate portion of sales to Maysak relief drive

In an effort to help the victims of Typhoon Maysak, McDonald's of Saipan will be hosting a "Relief Effort Fund Drive" on April 11 to April 12, Saturday and Sunday. During these days, McDonald's will be donating a percentage of their sales to the CNMI-FSM Typhoon Maysak Relief Drive.

McDonald's will also be accepting donations of non-perishable items (clothing, towels, tents) or food items such as rice, canned goods, and bottled water from today until Tuesday, April 14. With the help of several businesses, a free shipping container has been donated to the Relief Committee. The shipping container will be parked at the McDonald's Middle Road loca-



Ayuyu

tion and at the Garapan Fishing Base, where community members would be able to drop off any items they wish to donate.

When asked why McDonald's has decided to donate to this cause, Marcia Ayuyu said, "McDonald's always tries to find ways to help in any way we can. We recognize that many of our customers come from neighboring islands including Yap and Chuuk. This is our way of giving it back to them when they really need it the most."

As a member of the CNMI-FSM Typhoon Maysak Relief Committee and a native of Chuuk, Ayuyu said she is very grateful for the support of several business partners.

overtime requirements for hours worked beyond 40 in a work-week. These workers did not receive at least the minimum guaranteed salary of \$455 per week required for the overtime exemption to apply.

"An employer cannot pay workers only for the hours they believe should have been worked, but must pay for the hours actually worked," said Terence Trotter, the division's district director in Honolulu. "We appreciate this employer's

"In particular, we would like to thank Matson, Kyowa, Saipan Shipping, CTSI Logistics, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and Saipan Stevedore for providing us with a free container and for waiving the shipping fees. CTSI provided trucking services for the containers. CPA waived the wharfage fees and Saipan Stevedore waived the handling fees."

Ayuyu will also be joining the relief efforts this Saturday at the Garapan Fishing Base for Chuuk and the Kilili Pavilion in Susupe for the islands of Yap.

For more information or to donate to the Relief Drive, contact McDonald's Middle Road at 235-8577 or McDonald's Garapan at 233-8577. Community members may also reach Marcia Ayuyu by e-mailing erraayuyu@pticom.com. (Jayson Camacho)

full cooperation and their compliance will not only benefit their employees but levels the

playing field for law abiding employers."

Grandvrio Resort used to be

the Hafadai Beach Hotel before the name change on April 1, 2015. (*Saipan Tribune*)

Palacios quizzes Ada on DPW budget

By JOEL D. PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) said acting Department of Public Works chief James Ada faces a stiff challenge, particularly on the department's budget spending.

Ada, who was nominated to take the helm of the DPW, sat in front of lawmakers on Thursday on Capital Hill for a nomination hearing.

Palacios said he was "impressed with the testimonials" in Ada's favor but the department's budget "might be a challenge."

Palacios said he has read a portion of DPW's proposed budget plan, which included an allocation of \$1.7 million to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

for DPW's streetlights.

The lawmaker said he is "wondering if this amount can be used for other purposes," adding that DPW and CUC might be able to coordinate on these payments.

He said DPW's delivery of services have been "sliding" in the last few years, stressing that he is not "pointing a finger" at anyone, and that these concerns might be due to lack of resources or management issues.

Aside from the utilities pay-



ments, Palacios also advised Ada to look into other projects such as solid waste management, which he says is a major issue.

Ada, in an interview, confirmed the proposed payment to CUC, noting that payments for streetlights range from a low of \$150,000 per month, to a high of \$190,000.

"But we will work with the resources that we have," he said.

He did not disclose the actual budget proposal of the DPW, saying only that it is more or less the same budget in the previous year.



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TYPHOON MAYSAK DISASTER RELIEF EFFORT

Percentage of McDonald's Saipan gross sales from April 11 and 12 will be donated to CNMI Typhoon Maysak Relief Committee.

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Ex-convict found using opiates, playing poker

An ex-convict whose probation was revoked several times due to continued use of illegal drugs allegedly tested positive for opiates and was found gambling at a poker arcade, in violation of his probation conditions.

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday that Steven Faisao Abal tested positive for the use of

opiates on Feb. 15, 2015, and that he also admitted entering a poker arcade to gamble.

Arriola asked the court to revoke Abal's probation.

Chief Judge Ramona V.

Manglona summoned Abal to appear in court and explain why his probation should not be revoked.

Arriola said that, when confronted about the positive re-

sults for use of opiates during drug testing, Abal denied using any illegal drugs and that he only had taken Tylenol due to flu-like symptoms.

Arriola said that last Feb. 25, he received information that Abal was playing video poker in Garapan.

Arriola said that, when con-

CMS

From Page 1

visited the hospital yet but she received an email early yesterday morning from CMS survey and certification manager Rufus Arther.

Arther's email to Muna noted that in a letter dated Dec. 4, 2014, CMS notified her that based on the findings of a Sept. 12, 2014, Medicare follow-up survey which identified non-compliance with seven hospital CoPs, CMS was continuing an enforcement process that could result in the termination of CHC's Medicare hospital provider agreement by April 3, 2015.

"CMS accepted a plan of correction as a credible allegation of compliance in December 2014. Due to the extent of the deficiencies, the complexity of making fundamental, systemic changes, and in recognition as well of the importance of maintaining access to hospital services for CNMI's residents, CMS has decided to allow CHC additional time to demonstrate the capacity and commitment to achieve and sustain compliance with all Medicare hospital CoPs," Arther said.

"Accordingly, we are hereby further extending the prospective date for termination of the hospital's Medicare provider agreement to Oct. 30, 2015,"

he added. CMS had notified Muña during her trip to San Francisco, California in early March that the hospital's plan of corrections has already been approved.

CMS at first did not accept the corrective action plans due to the operating rooms' temperature control issue.

Considering that April was the deadline they gave CHCC, the corrective action plan could not be approved since the heat, ventilation, and air conditioning system was to be completed this June, so CHCC invested in additional air conditioners and humidifiers to maintain the humidity level in the OR while waiting for the HVAC's com-

pletion date.

Muña said that a brief governing body meeting was held after receiving the notice from CMS to announce the extension date. The hospital governing body also reminded hospital administrator Jesse Tudela and key personnel to stay the course and show real progress on compliance.

Muña also reminded key personnel that the CMS extension should be viewed by all hospital personnel as a tremendous trust on the part of CMS.

"It is our responsibility to maintain that trust by ensuring compliance. I asked that they pass the message to all hospital personnel," she said.

staging and production of our annual festivities, this perfectly fits our purpose and tradition," Apatang said.

Skywalker Communications business director Elvis Yu said there wouldn't be any cost to the Saipan Mayor's Office as they will provide the funding for that through their firm and sponsorships.

Yu said they are still working on the designs that will include carnivals and new activities. This is an added plus to the community as the past Liberation Day festivities have not seen the carnival in a long time.

"This is a win-win situation for the government, community, and the investors," he said.

Yu noted that the festival itself will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base and will include tradi-

tions of past Liberation festivities such as fireworks, parade, a carnival, booths and activities.

Their proposed target date is from June 27 to Aug. 16.

"We will work to maximize community involvement and emphasize the rich local traditions to ensure the success of this year's Liberation festivities," Yu said.

"This is a free marketing and promotion for the islands at no cost to the CNMI government. I am in high spirits that we will be able to reach more markets through the organizations' planning and staging," Apatang said.

Yu said that they are willing to do this because of the firm's 20 years experience with content marketing, public relations and events, celebrity management, brand management, and digital marketing in China.

Some of the firm's clients are Cartier, Audi, the Song Festival for the 2008 Beijing Games, Shanghai World Expo, Bank of China, and many more.

Yu said they will give weekly updates on their plans so the community is kept in the loop.

Skywalker Communications managing director Hu Bo, accompanied by personal assistant Blaze Yau, said the partnership will bolster promotional efforts and infuse vitality into the islands' marketing campaign to reach out to bigger markets.

"It can only get better as investment will open up the islands further to better opportunities, catapulting the CNMI to joining the leading tourist destinations in the world by tapping international media and marketing promotions," Bo said.

cally violent when drunk. She recalled an incident while they were drinking at their house with some friends. When everybody had gone, he started acting strange and rolled around in the dirt and on the street. When she asked him what was wrong, he replied that he broke his hip and then started walking to the hospital. When Mathewson returned the following morning, she tried to talk to him, but he refused to listen.

She said her ex-husband told her he doesn't love her anymore and does not care about her.

"I asked him to leave because I can't take it anymore. He refused and told me to get a restraining order if I want him to leave," she said.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho approved the wife's request for TRO on Sept. 24, 2012, and ordered Mathewson to appear in court to explain why an order of protection should not be issued against him.

At the Sept. 26, 2012, Camacho issued an order of protection and gave Mathewson one week to remove his personal

belongings from their family house in Liyo, Rota.

The order of protection was for a period of one year or until Sept. 25, 2013, unless extended or modified, according to court records.

On Oct. 7, 2013, Samaa filed for divorce. The case is pending in court.

Sources said Samaa now lives in Guam.

At his bail hearing on Monday, Mathewson said he has three children but is a single parent. He said all his family members are in Hawaii.

Police said Mathewson, a farmer/fisherman, stabbed Dr. Claassens in the neck with a fishing spear and whacked his head with a chain and a big black pot. The attack happened behind the doctor's house in Tenetno Village on Rota on Saturday morning.

Police said the suspect smelled of alcohol when they arrested him. Mathewson allegedly told officers that he wanted to watch the doctor die and that's what he gets for destroying his family.

Dr. Claassens is the only physician assigned at the Rota Health Center. According to his wife, he is showing signs of progress in a hospital in Guam.

When the incident happened his wife had just arrived in Guam from a trip to Honolulu. Their two children were in their house on Rota when the attack occurred.

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Jason Tarkong confirmed Wednesday that Dr. Claassens was initially admitted to the Guam Naval Hospital, but was transferred to the Guam Memorial Hospital because of the unavailability of a vascular surgeon.

Tarkong said a vascular surgeon from Guam Memorial Hospital removed the remaining portion of the fishing rod that was still lodged in the victim's head.

"The victim remains in serious condition which has not changed since being admitted at the Guam Memorial Hospital. Victim has not regained consciousness and remains on life support," Tarkong said.

fronted about the matter the following day, Abal admitted playing poker.

The probation officer reminded him that he was prohibited from accessing poker machines or any form of gambling devices.

Abal was sentenced in October 2005 to 20 months in prison and five years of supervised release for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine or "ice."

(Ferdie de la Torre)

LIBDAY

From Page 1

eration Day festival, with an end to make it even better than before.

The agreement is for a four-year term.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said this is big and completely different from the Liberation Day festivities in the past.

Former representative Chris Leon Guerrero will be the chairman of the Liberation Day committee, he said.

"This is something new for the CNMI. With how Skywalker Communications is committed to give the best possible exposure to our islands in the international arena by tapping different platforms and its creative

staging and production of our annual festivities, this perfectly fits our purpose and tradition," Apatang said.

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As of press time, it was not clear yet whether Stacey Atalig has already been arrested. She used to serve as Rota Finance resident director.

Saipan Tribune learned that Rowena Barcinas is the Rota Procurement officer, while Andrew Barcinas is her husband, who is a retired police officer. Tina Atalig is a former secretary of then-mayor Mendiola, while Apatang is the former field supervisor of then-mayor Mendiola.

Tarkong said the task force, backed up by the DPS Special Enforcement Action Section, made the arrests.

Tarkong said Wiseman imposed a \$5,000 cash bail for each defendant.

He said the Barcinas couple, Tina Atalig, and Apatang were transported by plane to Saipan and that they are now in custody of the Department of Corrections.

"DPS will defer on comments concerning details of the investigation to OPA," Tarkong said.

He said DPS participated and aided OPA with its investigative activities and in executing the arrest warrants.

beyond two-thirds of Tinian and Farallon de Medinilla.

Article 8

Article 8 under the CNMI Covenant, in summary, says that all right, title, and interest of the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in and to real property in the NMI will be transferred to NMI upon the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.

Section 802 states that the U.S. will carry out its defense responsibilities by leasing two-thirds of Tinian, 177 acres on Saipan (Tanapag Harbor), FDM (the entire island), and waters adjacent.

EX-WIFE

From Page 1

perior Court, Samaa Mathewson also disclosed that her husband "really changed" after he started taking personality altering medicines.

Samaa made the statement in support of her request for the Superior Court to issue a temporary restraining order against Mathewson.

"He is very unstable and I am scared of what he will do," she said.

At one point, she said, Mathewson broke up with her but came back drunk and repeatedly kicked the door of their house and broke their window.

"I don't know him anymore and I'm very worried for the well-being and safety of my children and myself," she said.

The two have three minor children.

She said Mathewson likes to drink a lot and would become verbally abusive, calling her a whore and lots of profanities. She said he also becomes physi-

cal violence when drunk.

She recalled an incident while they were drinking at their house with some friends. When everybody had gone, he started acting strange and rolled around in the dirt and on the street. When she asked him what was wrong, he replied that he broke his hip and then started walking to the hospital. When Mathewson returned the following morning, she tried to talk to him, but he refused to listen.

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MILITARY

From Page 2

nity for CNMI government to address CJMT staff who led the drafting and coordination of the CJMT EIS/OEIS. Several key points were raised, one that included the Pagan being acquired.

A discussion on the acquiring of Pagan cited the Covenant agreement that the CNMI government hammered out with the U.S. government, with the presumption that the U.S. military would not seek to acquire additional interest in real property

Hotel occupancy rate at 84 percent in March

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported 83.75 percent occupancy among 11 member hotels for March 2015, a 3-percent decrease compared to March 2014.

A total of 59,821 of 71,424 available room nights were sold in March 2015, compared to 62,066 of 71,455 of avail-

Govt lists more than 800 CNMI job openings for Jan.-March

The administration of Gov. Eloy S. Inos has listed more than 800 job vacancies in the CNMI covering major industries in the first quarter of this year.

Citing a report from the Department of Labor for the period from Jan. 1 to March 31, the government said 458 jobs were classified as "new" vacancies, 307 were classified as "renewals," 36 were classified as "replacements," 23 were "transfers," and two jobs were classified as "temporary" for a total of 826 job openings.

The top 10 occupations with job openings include: food preparation and serving related occupations (112); construction and extraction (86); sales and related occupations (76); installation, maintenance, and repair (69); business and financial operations (65 openings); personal care and service (60); building and grounds cleaning and maintenance (59); management (53); office and administrative support (42); and healthcare practitioners and technical occupations (34).

The bottom 10 occupations with openings include: architecture and engineering (32); transportation and material moving (28); computer and mathematical (14); protective service oc-

cupations (13); healthcare support (12); production (10); education, training, and library (9); farming, fishing, and forestry (6); life, physical, and social science (5); and legal (1).

These numbers indicate that job growth in the CNMI is moving forward, along with adequate and able-bodied applicants to fill those positions, the report said.

For this reporting period, there were 74 individuals hired or 9 percent of the total jobs posted by employers, 55 percent were new jobs posted, whereas 37 percent of the jobs posted were for renewals of CW visas.

For the same quarter, 37 businesses were visited by the CNMI DOL Enforcement (Saipan) Division consisting of 523 total workforce, where 51 percent consists of foreign national workers, while 44 percent are status-qualified citizens, and 5 percent are part-time workers.

DOL continues to encourage those unemployed and looking for work to register at www.marianaslabor.net and to update (if already registered) their information online or visit the Employment Services Division for further assistance. (Joel D. Pinaroc)

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(No kindergarten class at this time)

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School starts on August 12, 2015.
Please call the office (323-7451) or send an email to whisperingpalmsofsaiyan@gmail.com to set up an appointment.
www.saipanprivateschool.com

"Where Learning is a way of Life"

able room nights sold over the same period last year. Room rates were \$124.42 during the month, compared to \$116.57 last March.

"As HANMI marks its 30th anniversary this year, we're pleased to be a community partner in building a better Commonwealth with our tax and employment contribu-

tions," said HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh. "In celebration, we invite everyone to come out and for our HANMI Go-Kart Championship and

carnival on Saturday, April 11, at Mariana Resort & Spa."

So far this calendar year, hotel occupancy is at an average

89.15 percent, 3 percent lower

than last year. However, our average room rates have increased by 6.7 percent based on last year's figures.

The Hotel Association of

the Northern Mariana Islands was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the NMI. (HANMI)

Discussions on recreational use of marijuana urged

Longtime CNMI resident Ambrose M. Bennett is insisting that the recreational use of marijuana should also be taken up during the scheduled public hearing on Saipan tonight.

Bennett, who is also a former educator, said the hearing "is for the people to express their opinion."

A public hearing on Senate Bill 19-06 that proposes to legalize the medical use of marijuana is scheduled today at 6pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio

Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, and will be the first of two hearings on Saipan.

The bill was proposed by Sen. Sixto Igismar (R-Saipan) who earlier appealed to the public to focus their comments on the medicinal—and not recreational—use of marijuana at the hearing.

"If there are more people concerned about recreational use of marijuana than medical use, then you would think the senator would want to know about it—not try to keep them quiet," Ben-

nett said, adding that "those who want recreational use included in the bill should come and tell the senators. After all, public hearings are supposed to be about what the people want. The bill he is presenting is our (the people's) bill and if we can't say what we the people want in regards to marijuana then something is very wrong."

Trying to control what people will say and want is not freedom of speech but an attempt to take freedom of speech away!"

"Trying to stop people from

commenting on recreational use and legalization is wrong and even unfair to the people," Bennett further said. "It is obvious that recreational use [of marijuana] is getting as much and even more attention than medical use than medical use."

"I am thankful the senator started the ball rolling on this issue but it is not his ball—it's the people's," Bennett added. (Joel D. Pinaroc)

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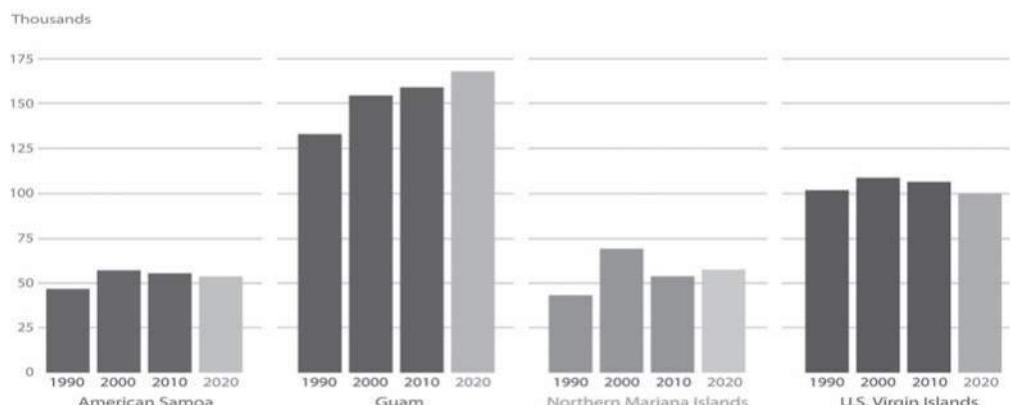
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IT&E

U.S. Island Area Populations

Trends over the decades



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1990, 2000, 2010 censuses for each U.S. Island Area, and International Data Base for 2020 projections



THANK YOU!

FOR CLEARING THE AIR

Thank you to all of the participants in the 2015 Kick Butts Day held March 24, 2015 at Hopwood Junior High School.

In a tobacco-free CNMI, we can all breathe easy.

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Grace Christian Academy
Chacha Ocean View Middle School
Kagman High School
Dandan Middle School
Garapan Elementary School
Mount Carmel School
Marianas High School
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Adm. Herbert G. Hopwood Jr. High School
Tan Siu Lin Foundation
Foremost

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Power 99



Report examines population changes in the US territories

WASHINGTON—Among U.S. Island Areas, only the U.S. Virgin Islands had a higher median age than the U.S. mainland at 39.2 years in 2010. A new report, Recent Population Trends for the U.S. Island Areas: 2000 to 2010, examines demographic trends, such as median age, for American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

American Samoa's median age of 22.4 years was nearly 17 years younger than the Virgin Islands and about 15 years younger than the U.S. median age of 37.2 years. Additionally, Guam and the Commonwealth

of the Northern Mariana Islands also had younger median ages at 29.5 and 33.4 years, respectively. This pattern of median ages among the Island Areas reflects their different migration and fertility rate histories.

“In 2010, the Island Areas had a population of roughly 375,000, about two-thirds the size of Wyoming, the state with the smallest population,” said Steven Wilson, one of the report’s authors in the Census Bureau’s Population Division. “The islands are geographically dispersed, located in the western Pacific, the South Pacific and the Caribbean. The people of the Island Areas are as diverse as the locations of the islands themselves.”

Guam remains the most populous Island Area with more than 150,000 residents. It was also the only area to gain population from 2000 to 2010, growing by 2.9 percent. Of all the Island Areas, the Northern Mariana Islands’ population declined the most between 2000 and 2010, dropping about 22 percent to 53,883. It reversed a trend of growth during the 1990s when

its population increased 60 percent. Between 2000 and 2010, American Samoa’s population declined by 3.1 percent to 55,519, and the U.S. Virgin Islands population declined by 2.0 percent to 106,405.

The U.S. Island Areas show higher population density levels than the U.S. mainland. American Samoa, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands had 2010 densities of 700 to 800 people per square mile, more than eight times higher than the U.S. density of 87.4 people per square mile and comparable to the density of Connecticut. The Northern Mariana Islands had an overall density of just under 300 people per square mile.

The statistics for the U.S. Island Areas are available through the Census Bureau’s American FactFinder, an online search tool that allows users to access, filter, manipulate and extract statistics.

More information on U.S. Island Areas is available at <http://www.census.gov/2010census/news/press-kits/island-areas/island-areas.html>. (**U.S. Census Bureau**)

Announcement

**U.S. Probation Office
Districts of Guam and the
Northern Mariana Islands
Saipan Office**

Effective immediately, our new phone numbers are
Main: **670-237-1250** • Fax: **670-237-1251**



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PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE TRACTOR MOWER TO ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ROTA

INVITATION FOR BID CPA-IFB -005-15

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting bids for the procurement and delivery of one Tractor Mower for the Benjamin T. Managlona, Rota International Airport.

The Bid Package is available beginning March 20, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package: “Bid: Tractor/Mower for the Rota International Airport-CPA-IFB-005-15. CONFIDENTIAL”

One (1) original and two (2) copies of the bid must be received at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor-Arrivals Building, Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, not later than **2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, Friday, April 10, 2015**. Bid opening will occur after this date/time at the CPA Conference Room, 2nd Floor – Departures Building.

Questions and/or clarifications regarding this IFB, the Tractor Mower and its Specifications shall be in writing and emailed to atudela@cpa.gov.mp (Alex Tudela/Procurement Officer) no later than April 03rd, 2015. Any question or clarification will not be entertained after April 03rd, 2015. Answers to questions and/or clarifications will be provided to each vendor or individual receiving a bid package.

Bids received after the above closing date and time of this Invitation for Bid will not be accepted and will be returned unopened. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all bids if in its opinion to do so is in CPA’s best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

Cops, civilian rescue 5 stranded swimmers

Police officers and a civilian safely rescued five Korean swimmers who were stranded outside the reef of the Sugar Dock channel last Friday morning.

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Jason Tarkong said yesterday that medics responded to the scene and ex-

amined the victims.

Tarkong said the victims—three men and two women with ages 27 to 35—were not injured.

Tarkong said that police were dispatched to Sugar Dock last Friday at 10:37am, in response to a report of a group of swimmers who've been stranded.

UOG to host 6th Conference on Island Sustainability

The University of Guam will be hosting the 6th Regional Island Sustainability Conference on April 15 and 16 at the Hyatt Regency Guam. The conference theme this year is "Building Resilient Island Communities." The conference features Nobel Peace Prize winner Virginia Burkett as a keynote speaker.

The two-day conference starts at 8am Wednesday, April 15. Burkett will be speaking at 9am.



About the keynote speaker

Virginia Burkett is the chief scientist for Climate and Land Use Change at the U.S. Geological Survey. She was formerly the chief of the Forest Ecology

Branch at the USGS National Wetlands Research Center in Lafayette, LA. She has published many papers about global change and low-lying coastal areas. She also served as a lead author of the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2001, 2007 and 2014 reports. The IPCC won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 along with Al Gore Jr. for their work to help educate people about climate change and measures needed to counteract such change.

Pre-conference activities take place on April 13 and 14 and include the Pacific Island Climate Change Advisory Committee meeting, the American Waterworks Association Western Pacific Region Water and

Dr. Robert A. Underwood said. "UOG continues to work on these issues through research and experimentation. We hope this conference will connect that work with students, community members and visionaries to give us forward momentum in dealing with climate change."

(UOG)

Dr. Robert A. Underwood said. "UOG continues to work on these issues through research and experimentation. We hope this conference will connect that work with students, community members and visionaries to give us forward momentum in dealing with climate change."

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A police officer arrived at the Big Boyz beach concession stand and borrowed a jet ski, while DPS Boating Safety officers prepared to launch the *Zodiac II* rescue boat.

At 10:41am, police officer Emery Kaipat located the swimmers outside the reef and saw three men and two women who appeared exhausted and were holding on to rubber tubes.

Kaipat rescued two swimmers on the jetski, while a certain Obaydul, a Bangladeshi employee of Island Marine Sports, also picked up another swimmer on his jet ski.

Boating Safety officer Stanley Patris and police officer Adrian Mendiola borrowed two

jet skis and rescued the remaining two swimmers.

All five swimmers were brought to shore, where medics from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services waited and subsequently examined them. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Sunnova pitches solar energy investment to CUC

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With an \$85 million funded portfolio set aside for Guam, the CNMI, and the Federated States of Micronesia, a company based in Guam wants to invest that money in solar energy for homes in the CNMI.

Jeffrey Voacolo, chief of operations for Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc., told the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. that they want to start an "industry" on Saipan.

Sunnova, which is the mother company of Micronesia Renewable Energy, has already invested \$7 million in Guam, he said.

"This is a way for the community to save a great amount of money without allocating any monies upfront and without risk. This program is working perfectly in Guam and I would like to invite anyone here...to please come to Guam and see the 100-plus system that we have built to date," Voacolo said in his written testimony.

Citing an "integration study" from 2013, he said the transmission, distribution, and generation of solar energy could be "easily handled" on Saipan.

Voacolo said that Sunnova/MRE is a program that will place more disposable income in the pockets of ratepayers.

It "will also help create an industry," he wrote.

He said their firm hires and trains local tradesmen who are paid above market rates. He pointed to the "building of a new industry that will grow

over the years" as the firm hires more for the installation of these systems.

"This program is real," he said, adding they have been installing these systems in Guam for the last five months.

If allowed to do so, the company would hook into the current net metering program, which allows solar generators like that in the Marianas Business Plaza to hook into CUC's power grid so surplus energy is transferred to the grid. This allows a customer to offset the cost of power drawn from the utility.



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NMC Nursing Club Health Fair tomorrow

The Let's Move Marianas representatives pose at their booth during last year's Health Fair. Stop by tomorrow to see more information booths at this year's Health Fair from 8am to 1pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.



Start your way to a healthier lifestyle by attending tomorrow's Health Fair organized by the Northern Marianas College's Nursing Club. The Health Fair will be held Saturday, April 11, 2015, from 8am to 1pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

The Health Fair is supported by Subway/Foremost, Let's Move Marianas Campaign, the College Access Challenge Grant, Area Health Education Center, Division of Public Health, and the Office of the Dean of Student Services.

Fair activities will run from 8am until 1pm and will also feature a 5K Walk starting at 7am. The first 20 participants who finish the 5K Walk will also receive T-shirt prizes. Entrance to the Health Fair and the 5K Walk is free.

Those who attend the Health Fair can also take advantage of the information booths and free

health services including free flu immunizations, screenings for blood pressure and blood glucose levels. There will also be various presentations and fitness classes from organizations like the Let's Move Marianas and Uncle Ben's Music and Dance Studio. The American Red Cross will be also demonstrating CPR techniques.

Participants may also purchase \$1 raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes like a free 18-hole round of golf from Coral Ocean Point and gift certificates from Subway, Kanoa Resort, Gold's Gym, Fiesta Resort & Spa, and other companies. Funds raised will be donated to the NMC's Nursing Club to purchase lancets and other supplies used for community service projects.

For additional information about the NMC Health Fair, contact the NMC Nursing Club at 237-6741/6743 or visit www.marianas.edu. (NMC)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Kagman Health Center to mark second anniversary

The 2nd Year anniversary celebration for the Kagman Community Health Center is slated for Monday, April 13, 2015, starting at 10am. A short tour of the facility will be done after brief remarks from the community partners. The community is welcomed and encouraged to attend.

KCHC is a primary care facility that serves all patients regardless of inability to pay. Everyone is welcome to be seen, even those that reside outside the Kagman area. To make an appointment or to get information, call 256-KCHC (5242). (PR)

Missing documents sought

If you have seen any important documents that may belong to Lu Wei, Shen Xiao Qing, or Lu Chen Xuan, kindly call 287-7658 or 235-7658. Her bag went missing in Chalan Kanoa on April 7, 2015. (PR)

MCS PTO to hold Yard Sale

Mount Carmel School PTO will be having a Yard Sale on April 18, 2015, a Saturday, from 8am to 2pm, at the Mount Carmel Cathedral field. Everyone is welcome to participate in the Yard Sale, which will cost \$25 (cash only) per space. To reserve a space, RSVP with Joyce Pangelinan at 783-1026 or Tina Crisostimo at 285-7695 by April 10. Should you have any questions and/or concerns, contact us at the school or the PTO vice president, Luis Camacho, at 287-9753. (PR)

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Tinian transfer station option moves to the front

»Decision lies with DPW

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Looming military plans and the years of failure to close Tinian's open-air dump appears to have pushed the construction of a new landfill off the table, but the decision will ultimately rest with the Department of Public Works, who will decide whether the military can ship waste to the Marpi landfill on Saipan.

Tinian's unlined dump collects all of island's solid waste, despite an administrative cease and desist order in 2010. The disposal site violates the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, which bans open dumps.

The Marines Forces Pacific, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, the governor's

Capital Improvement Projects office, landfill contractors, Tinian municipality representatives, and the Department of Public Works, among others, met yesterday to continue talks whether the military would help build a landfill on Tinian or transfer its wastes to Saipan.

It was earlier reported that the new landfill option, or Fukuoka landfill, would require 15 more hectares of land. Alter City Group recently obtained the lease to the property where the current dump sits.

Officials came away from the yesterday's meeting noting the construction of new landfill could take an earliest of 10 years.

"We had a great discussion," MARFORPAC project manager Tim Robert said. "I think everyone around the table agreed that a landfill—in order to meet the joint-use solution for Tinian and [the military]—a landfill

doesn't quite meet that requirement. It doesn't meet that timeline," he said.

"At this point, we've left it up to DPW, BECQ, and CIP to discuss with the Tinian mayor some of the solutions that we talked about today. At this point, we are waiting to hear back from them," he said.

Acting DPW secretary James Ada said he would be sitting down soon with the Tinian Legislative Delegation, Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas, their legal counsel, and the CIP office, along with DPW's Solid Waste Management to discuss the issue.

They aim to find out "what's the best solution" for Tinian, Ada told *Saipan Tribune*. "Once we come up with the final plan, we will advise [the military]."

BECQ administrator Frank Rabauliman said the military is required to dispose of their trash in a Resource and Conservation

Act-permitted dump.

"It's a must," he said. "The meeting today focused on that very last option [transfer waste]. I was sharing with them that BECQ's purpose is we simply regulate DPW. DPW is really the state agency that oversees solid waste management. In that regard, the decision to accept solid waste management lies with the DPW secretary," he said.

He said the military indicated on Wednesday that it would take somewhere around 10 to 15 years to build a functional landfill. "It's a long time," he said. "Because of that, they wanted a quick solution. They're thinking of seeing this

forward basing to Tinian as soon as maybe next year."

He also pointed to CIP's current transfer station project waiting in the wings.

"Without a destination to dispose of our waste stream—whether that's going to be a landfill on Tinian or transporting it up to the landfill here—the CIP [office] cannot move forward with the transfer station on Tinian. The transfer station by definition is simply that, a transfer station, which means it's just a holding place."

According to Rabauliman, a Tinian mayor representative indicated that they are still moving forward with planning a landfill on Tinian.

He also noted impacts to

Saipan with the transfer station option. "By accepting waste from off-island, you are essentially reducing the life of the landfill. At some point, if you accept the waste stream off island, the landfill is going to be reduced."

In that event, the landfill needs to be closed, "We would have to look to the Legislature for another landfill."

Rabauliman said he gathered from the military that solid waste per soldier is estimated at 7 lbs per day, with as much as 3,100 personnel on Tinian.

The military has plans for treatment facility to separate waste from recyclable materials. This would reduce the cost of shipment for waste to Saipan, he noted.

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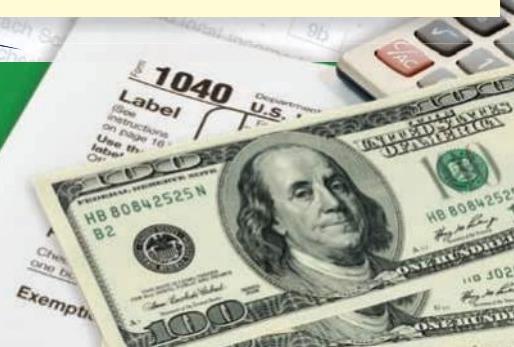
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Opinion

Saipan Tribune

CNN'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Pacific Islands News Association

There might be room for a religious freedom compromise

By CATHY YOUNG

NEWSDAY

The uproar over religious freedom bills in Indiana and Arkansas that could have permitted businesses to deny wedding services to same-sex couples shows to what extent gay equality has become a mainstream value in much of America.

The backlash was massive, forcing the conservative governors of both states to ask for changes to ensure that the measures did not offer a defense to complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation. For critics, the legislation evoked the shameful past of "whites only" stores and restaurants. Nonetheless, proponents raise valid and difficult questions about the tension between freedom of conscience and equality of access.

While the issue is often portrayed in terms of refusal to serve gays, the bakers, florists, photographers and other business owners at the center of this controversy stress that they have no problem serving gay customers for any occasion other than a same-sex wedding. What's at stake, they say, is the right to refuse their support to an idea that goes against their religious beliefs.

This concern may seem trivial to those who don't share those beliefs and find them backward at best and bigoted at worst. Yet surely we can imagine situations in which a business owner's or independent professional's philosophical objections to selling services for a particular occasion would be understandable. If a photographer cannot refuse to work at a same-sex wedding, conservatives ask, can she also be forced to work at the banquet of a white supremacist group?

Granted, such analogies are not only inflammatory but also legally shaky; political ideology is not protected under discrimination law. But here's a more likely scenario: Let's say an evangelical Christian couple wants a wedding cake with the biblical quote, "Wives, submit to your husbands" on it. If the baker refuses, finding the sentiment offensive, the couple might have a successful complaint of religious bias. It's safe to say that most of the people who are outraged by a Christian baker's refusal to supply a cake for a same-sex wedding would be far more sympathetic to the conscientious feminist baker.

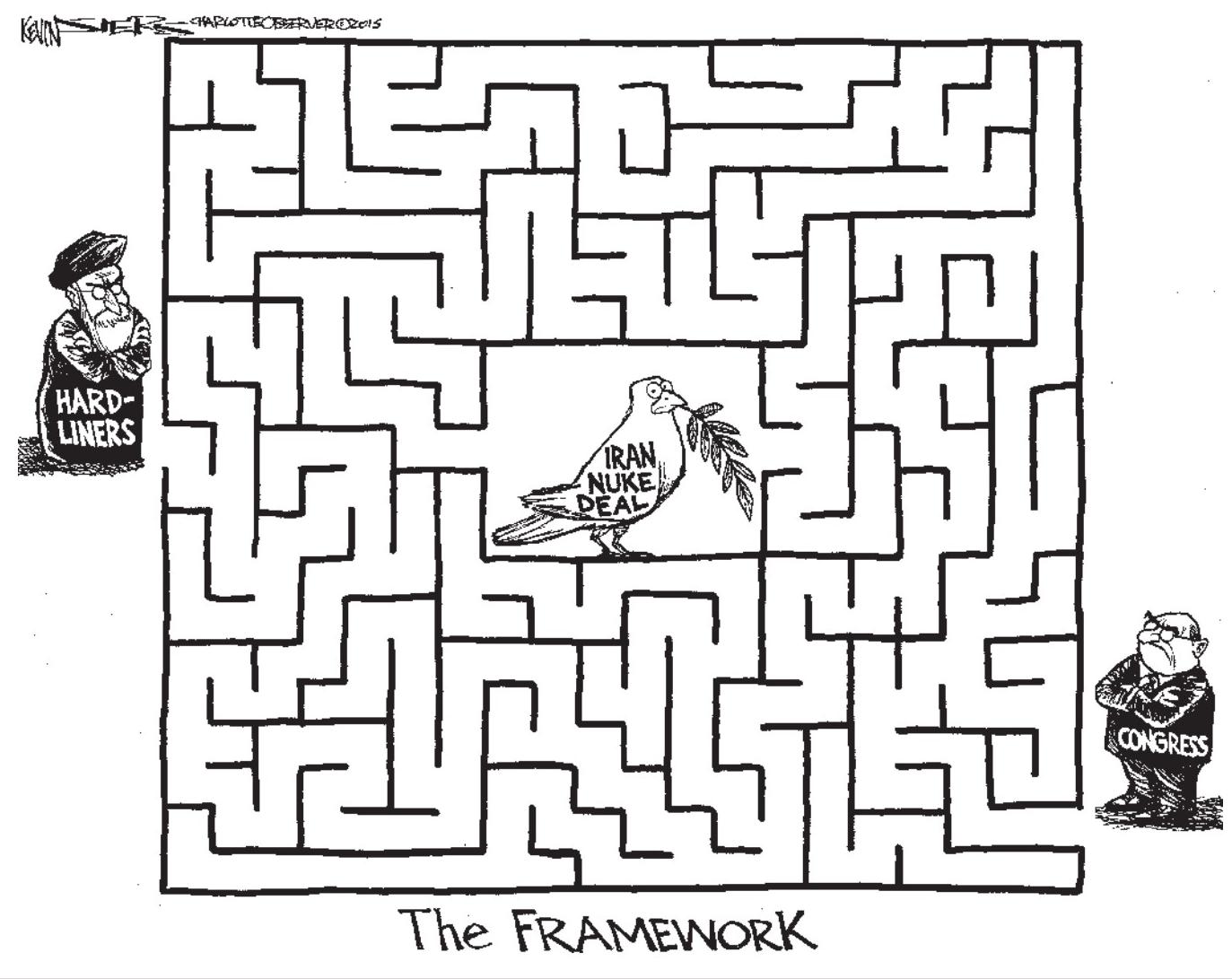
Of course, allowing a conscience exemption to anti-discrimination law could have far-reaching consequences. Can a traditionalist religious employer refuse to hire married women, citing a faith-based view that wives shouldn't work, or refuse to promote an atheist to a management position? Can a committed pacifist refuse to hire veterans?

Given this conundrum, we should expect more culture wars for years to come. The outpouring of both condemnation and support for pizzeria owners who said they would not send pizzas to a same-sex wedding shows there are strong feelings on both sides. Even many commentators who support same-sex marriage, such as Atlantic magazine columnist Conor Friedersdorf, believe that the drive to punish small business owners with traditional beliefs is intolerant and authoritarian.

One radical solution would be the classical libertarian view that private businesses should be able to refuse employment or service to anyone for any reason—as they could before the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Yet today, the principle that discrimination is against the law is so deeply entrenched that repealing such protections across the board would be unthinkable.

But perhaps such a solution could be considered on a small scale: family-run businesses with, say, fewer than a dozen em-

See THERE on next page



Making it happen: The L words of women leadership

Editor's Note: The following is the text of the speech the author delivered at the CNMI Women's Association 2nd Annual Women's Summit March 30-31, 2015.

Oftentimes people think that politics is a man's world. But in our islands, and in our Chamorro culture, our women have always been at the center of power. According to several accounts, in ancient times no decision was made final without the approval of a woman. No battle was waged, no journey embarked on without a woman's support. When our men would come back from fishing, the best of their catch was offered to the highest ranking woman. Thus, it is no surprise that so many of our women assume high political positions in our island governments. Today, I want to talk with you about what drives us as Chamorro women leaders, and I want to share what motivates the decisions I make as the Speaker of the Guam Legislature.

Chamorro women have always been credited for keeping our culture and language alive. We have a great sense of responsibility and we are entrusted with upholding the values of our people, ensuring that all members of our community are provided for, and protecting the most vulnerable members of society, especially the very old and the very young. Thus, when we make decisions, we do not make them in haste. We are careful, calculated, and thoughtful. We think like women.

In preparing for this presentation, I realized that all of the words describing my decision-making process begin with the letter L—I look, listen, lend, learn, and love. Let me explain. And I'd like to use an example of an issue I had to decide on that soon your community will be faced with—the military buildup.

I am aware that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the military's plans for training in Tinian and Pagan will be released this Friday, April 3. On Guam, we have gone through two very major Environmental Impact Statements since 2010 concerning the military buildup, and I learned many lessons about leadership in the process.

Our community has been divided about the buildup. The popular perception has been that the buildup would result in economic growth and jobs, both of which our island needs. However, it would also result in unnatural population growth, which would strain our infrastructure and increase the demand for public services. There are also concerns about the buildup negatively impacting our environment and our culture. One of the most contentious issues has been the need for a place for the Marines' Live Fire Training Range Complex. The areas that were selected as preferred alternatives—first Pagat and now Litekyan—are important cultural sites with latte

By JUDITH T. WON PAT

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Judith T. Won Pat is speaker of the 29th Guam Legislature.



villages and ancestral remains. As a leader, I had to decide my position on the buildup and it was not easy.

First I had to *look* at the situation from all angles and perspectives. I had to read all necessary documents, conduct additional research, compare the situation with similar situations in other places, and look to our history for answers. I wanted to understand as much as I could about what was being planned and how it would impact us. I knew that the plan to move the Marines to Guam was intended to lessen the presence of the Marines in Okinawa, so I went to Okinawa to see their situation for myself. I saw a community that was frustrated. Thousands of Okinawans have been protesting the Marines' presence in their island, particularly since 1995, when three Marines kidnapped a 12-year-old girl and raped her. I had to ask myself, "Is this what I want for my community?"

Then I had to *listen*. What were the people in my community saying? I had to listen to everyone. I started by listening to the women. I invited a group of women leaders to meet and discuss the buildup, and they had valid concerns about the impacts on children; the amount of money it would cost our government to host so many new people without any commitment from the federal government for funding outside the fence; the impacts on our culture and the possibility that as Chamorro people, we would become a minority in our island; among other concerns. We continued to meet regularly and became active in public meetings about the buildup. Eventually we formed a group called Fuetsan Famalao'an, meaning the Strength of Women.

I started to *lend* my own thoughts. Then more I got to know, the more I expressed concern. I became vocal about the need to put Guam first. I stressed the importance of protecting our cultural sites. I asked questions. I gave testimonies at the public hearings about the need to resolve our issues with the federal government, like self-determination, war reparations, Compact-impact reimbursements, contamination of our lands and water, land-takings and so forth. I

See MAKING on next page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Computing

I remember when computers were a luxury for those rich enough to afford them. They soon became a necessity for those poor enough to have to work for a living. I've always been on the wrong side of this equation, but if I ever win the Lotto, I'll hire flunkies to do my computer chores. Then I'll go fishing.

In the meantime, if there's any good news, I guess we can note that computers have gotten really cheap. And, furthermore, some of the best programs are better than cheap: They're absolutely free.

As examples, I'm going to offer up Chromebook computers and the AbiWord word processor. Not that I'm suggesting that AbiWord will run on a straight-from-the-box Chromebook computer, but we'll come to that point later because it provides some useful context.

As for Chromebook prices, some are under \$200. Today I heard a report that a price war will hit some major stateside retailers next week. I don't know if this is true or, if it is, how important it might be for Saipan's context. So I'll consider it mere rumor, but what the heck, it's a good enough excuse to take a look at the computer world today.

Just to be polite, I'll offer an introduction to Chromebooks for those who aren't acquainted with them. Chromebooks are the next evolutionary step from the small, light, and inexpensive "netbook" computers that came out a few years ago. WiFi was ubiquitous by that point, and netbooks piggy-backed on this fact as convenient devices for getting on the Net.

Netbooks were great toss-around computers for traveling and for island duty. They were instantly popular on Saipan. I bought a couple. They still work well. The drawback is that their tiny screens (10.2 inches) and cramped keyboards can be uncomfortable for extended use. For a quick check of email, or a glance at the Web, they

work well. But, beyond that, the ergonomics can't be ignored.

Enter the Chromebook. The name comes from Google's Chrome operating system. This species not only uses the Net, it pretty much is the Net, the idea being that your data is stored on the Net instead of in your computer. An inventory of basic applications is free and integrated into this Net-centered concept. Since the Net does the heavy lifting, the computer itself can be small, light and cheap; once the dog, the computer is now the tail.

One side effect of this approach is that some peripherals, such as printers, aren't always usable with a Chromebook, so that's something for buyers to research.

Chromebooks are made by many big-name companies. There's a huge, swirling galaxy of products to choose from. Two popular sizes, measured by screen size, are 11.6-inch and 13.3-inch, so in both cases there's more relief for the eyeballs and fingers than the old 10.2-inch netbooks offered.

From my experience, keyboards vary widely in usability and comfort. I'd prefer to buy a Chromebook, or any other portable computer, where I can lay my paws on it and test it out.

And now I'll mention a companion that has served me well over the years. I refer to AbiWord, available at AbiSource.org. This is a free word processor that runs in Windows and in Linux. It doesn't get much attention, so I like to mention it when I can.

It's not great because it's free. It's great because it's great. It's clean and fast, all engine and no bling, and it doesn't encumber me with the irritating array of "features" that most word processors harbor.

Talk about an economic paradox: I'm seeing more and more free software that is far better than the expensive stuff is. AbiWord isn't the only example, but it is certainly my favorite example.

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

Visit [Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com](http://EdStephensJr.com). His column runs every Friday.



AbiWord can be run without even installing it on the computer. For this role, PortableApps.com offers AbiWord as a download, and, once put on a USB stick, it can run from the USB and can also save its documents on the USB. In this guise it can hop from computer to computer with smooth promiscuity, as long as the computer is using the appropriate operating system.

Well, this brings us back to the Chromebook thing, and the fact that nothing with computers is ever as simple as we'd like it to be. Although the Chrome operating system is actually built from Linux, it's still not the same as running Linux itself. Therefore, AbiWord isn't in the cards for a straight-from-the-box Chromebook. Yes, there are ways of dealing with this but, no, it's not within the scope of today's banter.

But I'm talking lifestyle here, so this point is within our scope: The computer world is still a world of tradeoffs. Therefore, we all have to heed our particular priorities, preferences, and constraints. I don't pay close attention to the industry, but I do pay some attention since I can't ignore the realm entirely.

Ignore computers? Only rich guys can afford to do that.

Family reading program

I t's pleasantly humbling the active and proactive role of parents who've decided to guide their children in reading programs. This little sacrifice has great benefits ahead: 1). Shows the kids you have their interest at heart. 2). Pays off handsomely down the stretch as they move through academia.

If I have it my way, I'd combine this with music and writing simple compositions. The former is proven to improve the IQ of kids, the latter gives parents a quick glimpse into the reading comprehension of their young scholars.

It's also good for parents to read materials in advance so they could subsequently engage their kids in a discussion. It's great partaking in the discussion of familiar issue and an excellent way to develop their cognitive abilities. Engage them in simple debates to get them to begin using simple inference.

Parents are kids' bedrock

The buddy system must come with house chores for the kids. "Giving children household chores at an early age helps to build a lasting sense of mastery, responsibility and self-reliance," according to Marty Rossmann, professor emeritus of the University of Minnesota. This view came via an article by Jennifer B. Wallace, contributing editor of EmpoweringParents.Com.

"Today's demands for measurable childhood success—from the Common Core to college placement—have chased household chores from the to-do lists of many young people. With students under pressure to learn or do other things at school...it is hardly clear such activities are a better use of their time."

"Parents today want their kids spending time on things that can bring them success, but ironically, we've stopped doing one thing that's actually been a proven predictor of success—and that's house-

hold chores," says Richard Rende, a developmental psychologist in Paradise Valley, Ariz., and co-author of the forthcoming book *Raising Can-Do Kids*. Decades of studies show the benefits of chores—academically, emotionally and even professionally.

"Giving children household chores at an early age helps to build a lasting sense of mastery, responsibility and self-reliance, according to research by Marty Rossmann, professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota. In 2002, Dr. Rossmann analyzed data from a longitudinal study that followed 84 children across four periods in their lives—in preschool, around ages 10 and 15, and in their mid-20s. She found that young adults who began chores at ages 3 and 4 were more likely to have good relationships with family and friends, to achieve academic and early career success and to be self-sufficient, as compared with those who didn't have chores or who started them as teens.

"Chores also teach children how to be empathetic and responsive to others' needs," notes psychologist Richard Weissbourd of the Harvard Graduate School of Education. It isn't bad at all to keep the kids busy with little chores after school.

Legacy: Lee Kuan Yew

The passing of Singapore's founding father and elder statesman, Lee Kuan Yew, was mourned by the global community a week or so ago.

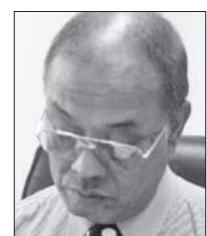
As a continuing student of government, I was fascinated by his mystique since two decades ago and turned him into a personal case study. He was a grand visionary and a confident leader: how would he navigate the fractured culture of his homeland or to rebuild his country after it was expelled "unceremoniously" in 1962 from the ill-fated union with Malaysia.

Lee led by virtue using his Asian values as his foundation, re-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.



building Singapore from zero-sum without resources to a world-class country on the same league as other wealthy nations throughout the global village, e.g., U.S. and Europe. It was his belief in such values that is now the beacon light of the Republic of China.

In less than a generation, he turned Singapore into global trade and finance powerhouse with a platform of clean and efficient government, business-friendly economic policies and social order. Yes, there are detractors who noted the widening divide between rich and poor and the rising cost of living and influx of foreigners. Critics praised him for his "outstanding wisdom and courage" but...many Singaporeans were sacrificed during the process of nation-building and policy-making and our society has paid the price for it."

Indeed, it was a complicated pile of substantive issues I had to meticulously dissect to foster a clearer understanding of the man and his country. His vision and leadership were uniquely rare that isn't found in others over the last half-century. To attempt anything in the legacy he's left behind is to teeter on oversimplification or diminishment of his work. Would his legacy last? The sentiment among his people is in the affirmative. Is there a Lee Kuan Yew here?

to be bombed, for example, you can say no.

Your conference is focused on "making it happen," which is a very important message for women. We have the power to make things happen, but we have to believe and trust in that power. We have to remember our role as women in our culture and envision the role we want our daughters and their daughters to play in the future. Then we have to make it happen.

THERE

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ployees could get an exemption from anti-discrimination laws of all kinds. If it were tried, perhaps we would soon see that the sky isn't falling—especially because, given powerful cultural support for equality in modern America, social disapproval would be an effective curb on bigotry.

Cathy Young is a regular contributor to Reason magazine and Real Clear Politics. She wrote this for Newsday.

MAKING

From Page 10

was heavily criticized and deemed anti-military, but as a woman, I would not back down. I was armed with knowledge and I had a duty to be a voice for my people and my culture.

I learned and I grew tremendously, and what was most surprising was that the people I learned the most from were my own children. They were at the forefront of the movement to save the ancient village of Pagat from being used as firing range. My children and the youth of our island inspired and rejuvenated me in moments when I felt helpless. I also realized that although the business people were given a lot of space to express their support of the buildup in local media outlets, they were not actually reading the draft EIS documents. Those who were the most informed in our community were the youth. They took apart that 10,000-plus page document and disseminated the information to the community. They challenged us, as leaders, to do more. And some of us heeded their call, because we were so inspired by their energy. I offered them my office space to have meetings and I did what I could in the Legislature to also spread information. I hosted

public briefings in which the government agencies were asked to review the EIS and report to us on how it would impact their operations and the island. As a result of the community efforts combined, more than 10,000 comments were made on the EIS, which the Navy said is unheard of in most EIS commenting periods.

I also learned from my mistakes. Every day I would ask myself, "What could I have done better?" And I used that as my motivation to make better choices the next day. On a deeper level, as islands who share the same culture, I invite you to look at Guam and the path we have taken and ask yourselves, is this what you want for Tinian or Pagan? We have to learn from each other, because no matter what political lines divide us, we are all one family of Chamorro people.

This leads to my final point, which is that I am always driven by a deep sense of love. Everything I do as a leader, I do from a place of love—love for my family, love for my island, love for my ancestors, and love for our future generations. When you are driven by love, no amount of criticism can stop you from your purpose. Nothing will stand in your way.

Here in the CNMI, you have more political power than we do on Guam because you are a Commonwealth. If you do not want Pagan

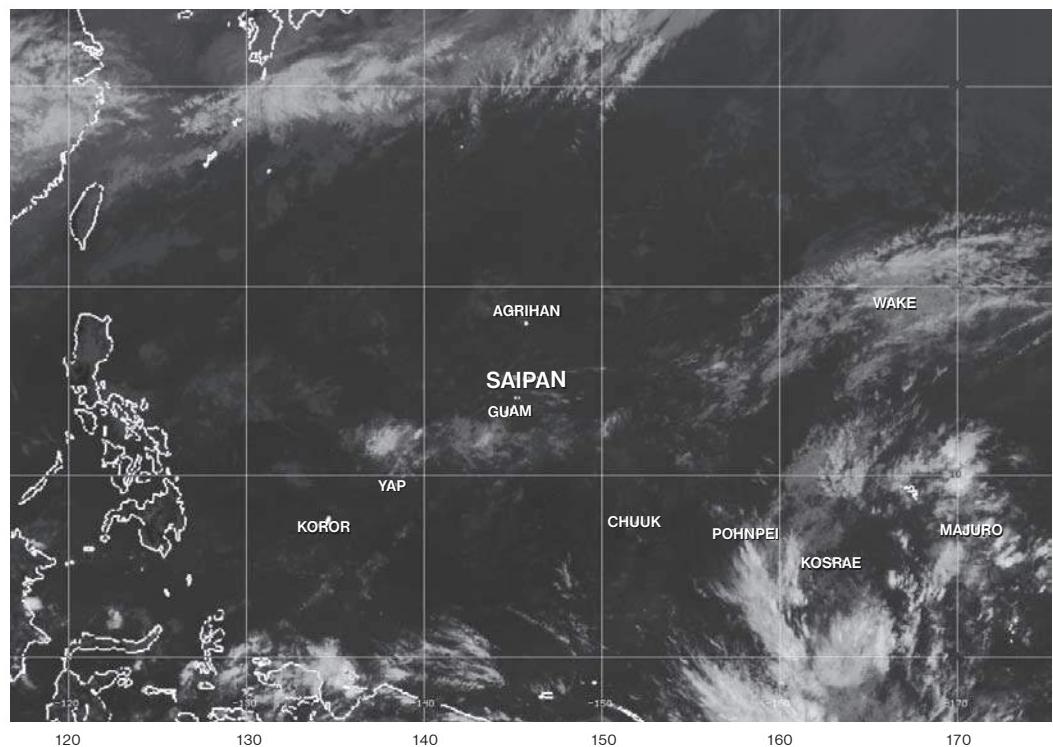
The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 86°	▼ 75°	▲ 86°	▼ 75°	▲ 87°	▼ 75°	▲ 87°	▼ 75°
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Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line stretches southwestward from 14N160E to near Yap at 10N136E. Scattered showers are occurring between 17N and 13N from 154E to 161E as well as over Guam but north of Yap within 70 miles of a line from 10N136E to 12N147E. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Wake Island between 22N and 14N from 161E to 172E. A surface trough extends southward from 10N161E to the equator at 162E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found within 100 miles of a line from 10N163E to 5N160E to EQ160E and south of Kosrae south of a line from 2N161E to 2N166E. Low-level convergence on the leading edge of a weak trade-wind surge is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands within 150 miles of a line from 3N172E to 11N167E. A tropical disturbance centered southeast of Majuro near 5N and the date line is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 6N and 3N from 175E to the date line.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 84	▼ 77
Palau	Cloudy	▲ 89	▼ 78
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86	▼ 78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲ 86	▼ 79
Pohnpei	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83	▼ 78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 82
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 82

Around the Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 74	▼ 63
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲ 70	▼ 44
Hong Kong	Cloudy	▲ 78	▼ 69
Honolulu	Windy	▲ 81	▼ 69
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 66	▼ 45
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74	▼ 52
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 91	▼ 73
Melbourne	Sunny	▲ 69	▼ 49
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 74
New York	Showers	▲ 47	▼ 44
Osaka	Rain	▲ 58	▼ 49
Paris	Sunny	▲ 70	▼ 44
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 62	▼ 45
Rome	Sunny	▲ 68	▼ 48
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66	▼ 40
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63	▼ 46
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 65	▼ 38
Tokyo	Rain	▲ 54	▼ 49
Washington, DC	Showers	▲ 58	▼ 52

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
12:49 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.7 Feet
6:25 AM	Today	Low Tide: 1.1 Feet
11:33 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.7 Feet
6:51 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:07 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:31 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:31 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:26 PM	10:16A M
Saturday		11:10 AM
Sunday	12:19 AM	12:06 PM
Monday	1:12 AM	1:04 PM
Tuesday	2:03 AM	2:02 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2015

DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS		
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN		
UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily			UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily		
UA5068 8:00am 8:50am 3			UA5071 6:40am 7:30am 3		
UA5068 8:40am 9:30am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071 7:15am 8:05am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039 2:15pm 3:55pm 6, 7 via Rota			UA5039 12:55pm 1:45pm 6, 7		
UA5078 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 5			UA5038 1:00pm 2:35pm 2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038 3:05pm 3:55pm 2, 4			UA5077 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 5		
UA5040 6:55pm 7:45pm 1, 5			UA5041 5:35pm 6:25pm 1, 5		
UA5078 8:35pm 9:25pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077 7:15pm 8:05pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044 10:40pm 11:30pm 1, 5			UA5043 9:20pm 10:10pm 1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)		
UA5039 2:15pm 2:50pm 6, 7			UA5038 1:00pm 1:35pm 2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN		
UA5039 3:20pm 3:55pm 6, 7			UA5038 2:00pm 2:35pm 2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN		
DL287 6:05am 1:05am+1 2, 6 via NRT			DL298 4:30am 2:55pm 3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN		
DL287 6:05am 8:45am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6			DL298 10:25am 2:55pm Daily		
DL297 4:20pm 7:10pm Daily			DL288 8:55pm 1:25am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN		
OZ626 2:20am 6:00am 1			OZ623 8:50am 2:20pm Daily		
OZ626 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402 9:30am 3:20pm 1, 2, 4, 7		
7C3403 4:35am 8:20am 1,					



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Nora Sablan, Takecare Insurance operations manager, sixth from left, hands over the check donation to NMC Foundation director Joe Santos, fifth from left. Also in photo is the staff from FHP and the members of the NMC Foundation committee.

TakeCare Insurance donates \$2.5K to NMC Foundation

In its ongoing efforts to support CNMI students and their educational goals, TakeCare Insurance recently donated \$2,500 to the NMC Foundation. The donation was made in support of the 12th Annual Foundation Open golf tournament that will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2015, at Laolao Bay Golf &

Resort (west course).

The NMC Foundation is a committee of community volunteers committed to raising funds for the college's programs and services. The golf tournament is the organization's main fundraising event.

"TakeCare Insurance is proud to be an unwavering supporter

of the NMC Foundation and its aim to raise funds for higher education here in the CNMI," said Nora Sablan, operations manager at TakeCare Insurance.

The 12th Annual Foundation Open golf tournament will held at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort (west course) on Saturday, April 18,

2015, with a show time of 6am and a shotgun start at 7am. The tournament will follow a medal play format.

There are six flights with \$500 cash prize, while second place is \$300 and third is \$200. The six categories are: Championship, A, B, C, ladies, and seniors.

In addition to the flight prizes, there is a \$10,000 hole-in-one prize sponsored by Marianas Insurance the first lucky golfer who makes a hole-in-one at the LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort's holes 7 or 13 at the West Course will win the \$10,000 prize.

For more information on how

to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.marianas.edu or call 234-5498 at extension 6764 or 6840. The fee is \$95 per person. Registration forms can be downloaded or picked up at the NMC Cashier's Office and Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. (NMC)

Experience Nissan

FREE TINT

FREE ZIEBART UNDERCOAT

FREE ONE YEAR MAINTENANCE

\$22,995
OR
\$169
per paycheck*

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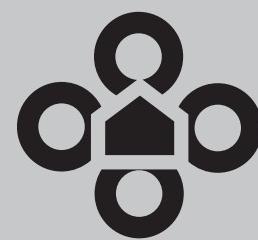
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Japan emperor prays at WWII battleground

TOKYO (AP)—The emperor of Japan visited a remote Pacific island Thursday to pray for thousands of Japanese and American soldiers who died during the World War II battle of Peleliu.

Emperor Akihito and his wife Empress Michiko laid bouquets of white chrysanthemum flowers in front of a seaside memorial for Japanese victims after arriving by helicopter on Peleliu island in the western Pacific nation of Palau. The couple then turned to the sea and offered a moment of silence toward a nearby island where many others also died. They later prayed at a separate memorial for Americans.

"Our thoughts go out to all those who went to the battlefields to defend their countries," One Japanese survivor, 95-year-old Kiyokazu Tsuchida, travelled to the island for the imperial visit. "Of the 34 survivors, sadly

never to return home," Akihito said in a statement before his flight to Palau on Wednesday. "We must never forget that those beautiful islands in the Pacific Ocean have such a tragic history."

Akihito, who is 81, was 11 years old at the end of the war. His father, Hirohito, was emperor at the time.

Peleliu is one of several islands where Japanese soldiers fought to the death during the final year of the war. The three-month battle of Peleliu, which started in September 1944, left about 10,000 Japanese and 1,700 Americans dead.

One Japanese survivor, 95-year-old Kiyokazu Tsuchida, travelled to the island for the imperial visit.

"Of the 34 survivors, sadly

I'm the only one who made it back here," he said Wednesday in an interview from the island with Japanese broadcaster NHK. After a moment of silence at a separate, private memorial, he added: "My perished fellow soldiers must be all delighted to see the emperor."

The visit by the emperor highlights the slow-moving search for the remains of missing Japanese soldiers.

Only half of the 2.4 million Japanese who died overseas have been recovered. Of those, about 300,000 are

believed to be lost at sea and unrecoverable.

Officials cite a lack of documentation and geographical and political reasons for the delay. In recent years, veterans groups and relatives of the dead have pressured the government to do more, and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has promised stepped-up efforts.

In Palau, half of the estimated 16,200 war-dead are still unaccounted for more than 60 years after the search began in 1953, according to the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Wel-

fare. Six sets of remains were excavated during the latest search last month.

Palau, which lies about 800 kilometers (500 miles) east of the Philippines, was ruled by Japan for about 30 years after World War I.

The emperor's visit in the 70th anniversary year of the war's end follows a visit to Saipan, another World War II battlefield in the Pacific, in 2005, the 60th anniversary year. He also prayed for Japanese and U.S. war-dead in Iwo Jima in 1994.

D&Q joins MINA's eco bag campaign

D&Q has joined the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance and Joeten supermarkets in the effort to reduce the use of plastic bags by encourag-

ing customers to use reusable bags. For every reusable bag they use, customers will be given a chance to win an eco-bag filled with \$100 worth of

D&Q products. Drawings are held every Tuesday afternoon, with two winners per week. There will be six more winners for the month of April. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Joeten Kagman supervisor Janet Ada, winner Cynthia Cepeda and children, and D&Q Sales Support Jaki Fujihira.



From left, Joeten Dandan manager Frances Pinaula, winner Ramona Laniyo, and D&Q Sales Support Jaki Fujihira.

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NMC reps featured at National Disabilities Meeting

Representatives of the Northern Marianas College's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, or UCEDD, recently presented at a national meeting of UCEDD leaders in Washington D.C.

David Attao, dean of Administration and Resource Development, and Floyd Masga, UCEDD director and CDI acting director, led a discussion on the efforts and services that are provided in the Marianas to promote equal opportunity, independence, productivity, self-determination and support for individuals with developmental disabilities. Their presentation was made at the 2015 UCEDD Directors Retreat and Technical Assistance Institute.

"This was a great opportunity to share the college's progress in providing training, technical assistance, and information-sharing sharing especially in terms of building capacity," said Attao.

More than 90 UCEDD directors and representatives from all over the United States participated. This was the first time for CNMI UCEDD to be invited.

"We also highlighted the expertise and diverse resources available in the UCEDDs of the outlying territories, how we network and engage assets to continue to grow our collective capacity, and the existing and potential partnerships or collaborations we have built over the years," Masga said.

As a result of the CNMI's participation in this meeting,

NMD advocates call for accountability and transparency in real estate deals

The Northern Marianas Descent Corp. is pleased that Rep. Roman C. Benavente is heeding NMDC's position that the CNMI direly needs to adopt standards to ensure fair and reasonable land valuations and transactions. According to NMDC president Joaquin "Jack" Sablan Jr., "This should have been legislated a long time ago so that there would have been set regulations for the government and private entities to adhere to. That is what and why we are here for, to advocate and educate on behalf of the indigenous people so that transparency and accountability are practiced, resulting in mutual social and economic benefits [for] both sides."

Our leaders in the Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary branches should seriously take into consideration and realize that the CNMI has experienced a tremendous collapse in the real estate market and our overall economy, and it's time that we adopt sound public policies with much needed regulations and guidelines to protect the CNMI and its people from unscrupulous buyers



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
NMC's David Attao, partly hidden, second from left, and Floyd Masga, fourth from right, recently presented at a national disabilities meeting.

there was significant discussion regarding the potential of the UCEDD at NMC becoming independent. Currently, the UCEDD at NMC is part of the University of Hawaii system.

"We have been working and preparing ourselves to become an independent Center of Excellence that will allow for direct funding and direct management of programs and grants," Attao added. "We are only a few key steps away, and we thank the University of Hawaii for its guidance and mentorship and once the opportunity fully presents itself, we will work with our key officials, including our U.S. delegate's office, to ensure the CNMI has its voice for individuals with disabilities and their families." (NMC)

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Chinese idol group SNH48 films video on Saipan

Popular Chinese idol group SNH48 recently chose Saipan as the location for the filming of their newest video.

After months of planning and preparation with local entrepreneur Walt Goodridge, video producers ZanyBros, Korean's largest video production company and the creative force behind many of today's biggest K-pop stars in the global "Hanryu" Korean pop culture explosion, arrived on March 20, and filmed for three days at various locations around Saipan, including beaches behind the Hyatt Regency and Fiesta Resort and Spa, the Bird Island trail, Joeten Supermarket, and the Banzai Cliff area.

"This unique project involved coordinating four languages, a 17-person Korean video crew, 24 artists and their 25-person support staff from China, a Japanese producer and one Jamaican," says Jamaican-born Goodridge, who acted as location manager for the shoot. "And with our uniquely Saipan mix of Chamorro and Filipino drivers, a Carolinian sound engineer, vendor owners and hotel managers from Czech Republic, Bangladesh, India, Russia, Korea, Hong Kong and the mainland United States, we pulled it off! Things went smoothly, and thanks to Saipan's ideal weather, all filming was finished on time!"

"I'm hopeful that this will lead to more film projects here on Saipan," he added.

ZanyBros Korea wishes to thank the residents of Saipan, and the following individuals and vendors who helped make the production a success: Nancy McDowell and Pamela at Hyatt; Kazu, Martin, Das and

FERDINAND RAMOS
Saipan location manager Walt Goodridge poses with members of SNH48.

Joseph at Fiesta; Helen, Yukari and Yulia at Aqua Resort; Grandvrio Resort; Doug Brennan and Jocelyn Pangelinean at Atkins Kroll Saipan; Alex and Kit at Hertz; Divine at Islander Car Rental; Ephraim at Thrifty Car Rental; Tati and Shane at the Department of Public Lands; Top Development; Division of Coastal Resources Management; Saipan TV, Noli at Marianas Studio; Domingo at Hanmi Hardware; Gus Kaipat; Lino Olopai, John Joyner; Joe Hill; Godfather's Beach Bar; Anna Chang and the staff at Canton Restaurant; Byung Hoon Park at The Grill Hai (Fusion) restaurant; Frank Li at U-Save Car Rental; Darlene and Debra at Joeten Supermarket; Joseph at Island Equipment Rental; Gordon Marciano; Mario, Alex, Conrad, Jude, Kevin, Alejandro, Gids, Dave, and Joe, Ichi Ban Marine Sports, plus all the security personnel, front desk clerks, and other staff for their hospitality, cooperation and delicious food!

Another announcement will be made when the video is released.

■ Check out SNH48 at <http://www.snh48.com>

■ Read more about the idol group phenomenon, which started in Japan at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_idol

■ Read more about ZanyBros at <https://www.zanybros.com>

■ View additional photos from the shoot at www.bestofsaiyan.com. (PR)



Bridge Capital is new sponsor of Adopt-A-Bin Program



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NOTICE OF APPLICATION

April 10, 2015

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Department of Public Works	01/20/2015 SMS-2015-X-003	Route 33 Beach Road Project	Shoreline Areas	Major Siting	Withdrawn (04/01/2015)
2. Saipan TV Production, Inc.	03/25/2015 SSm-2015-X-017	Photographic Activities	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (03/27/2015)*
3. Auto Marine	03/26/2015 SPIm-2015-X-018	Dry Dock	Lower Base	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (04/08/2015)*
4. Northern Marianas Trade Institute (NMTI)	04/01/2015 SPIm/SWm-2015-X-019	Sewer line Connection	Lower Base	Ports & Industrial & Wet land APC	Approved (04/07/2015)*
5. Saipan Sea Ventures	04/06/2015 SPIm-2015-X-020	Dry Dock	Lower Base	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (04/09/2015)*

Require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Bridge Capital, LLC officials and employees pose with the trash bin the company has adopted atop Mt. Tapochau.

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance announced yesterday

that Bridge Capital, LLC is their newest sponsor of the Adopt-A-Bin program. Bridge Capital's sponsored bin was placed on Mt. Tapochau this past week.

Brooke Nevitt, interim executive director, said, "MINA is excited to welcome Bridge Capital to the Adopt-A-Bin Program. Their sponsorship will help keep this beautiful spot clean and healthy for our local community and visitors year round. Thank you Bridge Capital and thank you to all of Adopt-A-Bin sponsors."

"We couldn't be happier to be partnering with MINA," said Reneacia San Nicolas, office manager for Bridge Capital, LLC. "We're extremely proud to support MINA's conservation efforts in the CNMI."

Adopting organizations pay for one year of trash collection services, reducing the amount of litter left on the ground that eventually washes into surrounding waters. MINA would like to thank current sponsors. Their donation of \$1,000 per year continues to pay for its weekly trash collection. The Adopt-A-Bin Program is supported by sponsorships from Brabu Pharmacy, Bridge Capital, Docomo Pacific, Ericco LLC, FlameTree TV/Marianas Trekking, IT&E, IP&E, NMDOA, Laolao Bay Pride Campaign, Marianas Visitors Authority, Rep. Edmund Vilagomez, Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro, and Saipan Computer Services/Ideal Signs. (MINA)

Business

Apple Watch isn't the only gadget out this week

NEW YORK (AP)—The public will have its first chance to see, touch and buy the Apple Watch on Friday, as Apple stores in the U.S. and eight markets abroad start previews and online orders commence.

Prices start at \$349, but can

Shell's \$70 billion takeover could herald wave of mergers

LONDON (AP)—Oil and gas company Shell has agreed to buy British rival BG Group for 47 billion pounds (\$69.7 billion), in a deal that may signal a new wave of mega-mergers as the energy industry tries to adapt to lower prices.

Royal Dutch Shell said Wednesday it will pay the equivalent of 13.67 pounds in cash and stock for each share of BG Group, 50 percent more than Tuesday's closing price. The deal will boost Shell's oil and gas reserves by 25 percent, including offshore projects in Australia and Brazil, and give it a bigger presence in the fast-growing liquefied natural gas market, Shell said.

Other energy giants may follow suit as they look to boost growth through acquisitions af-

ter increased production in the U.S. helped trigger a plunge in oil prices. The last wave of oil mergers took place in the 1990s after new production from the North Sea, Alaska and Mexico led to excess global capacity and companies linked up to protect themselves, or bought weaker rivals at lower prices.

"Will this be the opening shot in a new wave of megamerger like the 1990s?" asked Christian Stadler, associate professor of strategic management at Warwick Business School in Britain. "Quite a few oil companies are under cost pressure with no sense of the oil price recovering. Companies had got used to \$100 a barrel, and many need \$40 to \$60 to break even so we could see more of these deals."

walk out with a watch. The first orders ship out April 24th and buyers can either have watches sent directly to their homes or arrange to return to a store for pickup. The same applies even after the 24th.

Although Samsung, Motorola, Sony and other companies already have been selling smartwatches, none has been a hit beyond a small group of tech devotees. The market will be watching to see if Apple's device changes the game.

But the Apple Watch isn't the only gadget available this week. Here are five other new devices and services targeting your wallet.

DON'T FORGET THE MACBOOK

Apple's new laptop, simply called MacBook, debuts Friday. It's the company's lightest and thinnest laptop so far, making the ultra-thin MacBook Air appear bulky by comparison. Apple borrowed many design techniques from the iPad, including eliminating the fan.

The new MacBook comes in silver, gold or gray—the first time there has been a color choice since Apple ditched plastic for metal on its laptops. The



In this March 9, 2015 file photo, members of the media and Apple guests get a look at the new MacBook in the demo room after an Apple event in San Francisco.

base model is \$1,299. You get double the storage and a faster processor for \$1,599.

NEW ANDROID PHONES

Samsung's Galaxy S6 phones and the HTC One M9 make their general U.S. debut in retail stores. (Online orders have been accepted for a few weeks). Samsung swapped its plastic back cover for more stylish metal and glass to better compete with the iPhone. It also improved the camera and software interface. HTC also improved its camera and has

added home-screen personalization based on location. Prices vary by carrier. No-contract versions generally start at about \$650.

HBO ONLINE

In time for the return of "Game of Thrones" this Sunday, HBO launched its stand-alone streaming service, HBO Now, priced at \$15 a month. Initially, it's available only to owners of an Apple TV, iPhone or iPad, or to Cablevision's Internet-access subscribers. HBO Now offers the same content

as HBO Go, the companion app to HBO's cable channels. The difference is you don't need a cable or satellite TV subscription.

You could also pay \$15 a month to watch HBO shows online through Dish's Sling TV service. That's on top of Sling TV's \$20 monthly fee for nearly two dozen other cable channels, including ESPN and CNN. Sling TV plans to debut HBO no later than Saturday as part of an app upgrade.



SPEAKING OF STREAMING

CBS' \$6-a-month streaming service, All Access, is now available on Roku - the first streaming TV device for the network. The subscription offers live feeds of CBS stations in some markets, along with a bigger library of on-demand content than what's available for free.

Meanwhile, the Roku 3 player now has a new remote control with a voice search button that customers can use to see what's available across multiple streaming services such as Netflix. Another feature tracks when a movie you're interested in becomes available for streaming or gets a price cut.

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate \$3,563,034.00 in LIHTCs for the 2015 program year.

Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or through our website at www.nmhc.gov.mp.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **\$1,000.00 Application Fee** in NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, July 31, 2015**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **August 17, 2015**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **4:30 pm August 31, 2015**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **September 2015** Board Meeting.

Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs thirty (30) days following the September 2015 Board of Directors meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NMHC RFP 2015-003

(This ad is paid for by NMHC general funds)

Consulting Services for the NMHC's Garapan Annex Properties

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) are soliciting Request for Proposals from Qualified Consulting Service Firms to obtain a high quality report on the preliminary redevelopment of the existing Annex II subdivision, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal packets will be available on or after Wednesday, March 25, 2015, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI Holidays.

Mandatory Pre-proposal conference is scheduled on April 15, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. (local time) at the NMHC Conference Room, Saipan. All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or via fax to (670) 234-9021, no later than April 17, 2015, 4:30 p.m., local time.

All proposal submissions must be sealed, shall be marked "Confidential" and labeled "NMHC RFP 2015-003" and submit one (1) original and three (3) copies, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, April 24, 2015 (Friday), at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, P.O. Box 10008, Saipan, MP 96950. Selection of a proposer shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director
Procurement and Supply

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Nation

Tsarnaev guilty on all charges in Boston Marathon bombing

BOSTON (AP)—Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was convicted on all charges Wednesday in the Boston Marathon bombing by a jury that will now decide whether the 21-year-old should be executed or shown mercy for what his lawyer says was a crime masterminded by his big brother.

The former college student stood with his hands folded, fidgeted and looked down at the defense table in federal court as he listened to the word “guilty” recited on all 30 counts against him, including conspiracy and deadly use of a weapon of mass destruction. Seventeen of those counts are punishable by death.

The verdict, reached after a day and a half of deliberations, was practically a foregone conclusion, given his lawyer’s startling admission at the trial’s outset that Tsarnaev carried out the terror attack with his now-dead older brother, Tamerlan.

The defense strategy is to try to save Tsarnaev’s life in the up-

coming penalty phase by arguing he fell under Tamerlan’s evil influence.

The two shrapnel-packed pressure-cooker bombs that exploded near the finish line on April 15, 2013, killed three spectators and wounded more than 260 other people, turning the traditionally celebratory home stretch of the world-famous race into a scene of carnage and putting the city on edge for days.

Tsarnaev was found responsible not only for those deaths but for the killing of a Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer who was gunned down days later during the brothers’ getaway attempt.

“It’s not a happy occasion, but it’s something,” said Karen Brassard, who suffered shrapnel wounds on her legs and attended the trial. “One more step behind us.”

She said Tsarnaev appeared “arrogant” and uninterested during the trial, and she wasn’t surprised when she saw no re-



In this courtroom sketch, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, second from left, is depicted standing with his defense attorneys William Fick, left, Judy Clarke, second from right, and David Bruck, right, as the jury presents its verdict in his federal death penalty trial Wednesday, April 8, 2015, in Boston.

morse on his face as the verdicts were read. She refused to say whether she believes he deserves the death penalty, but she

rejected the defense argument that he was simply following his brother’s lead.

“He was in college. He was a

grown man who knew what the consequences would be,” Brassard said. “I believe he was ‘all in’ with the brother.”

Tsarnaev’s lawyers left the courthouse without comment.

In the penalty phase, which could begin as early as Monday, the jury will hear evidence on whether he should get the death penalty or spend the rest of his life in prison.

“I felt that my life, with this information, might be in danger,” Santana said.

Santana said he changed his mind after reading the version of events as recounted by the police, which didn’t match what he had seen. He said he provided the video to the dead man’s family because he didn’t believe anything would happen to Slager if he didn’t come forward.

beginning at a moment when both men are standing, as Scott pulls away from the officer and an object appearing to be a stun gun falls to the ground, trailing wires. As the unarmed man runs away, Slager then pulls out his Glock pistol and fires eight times at the back of the 50-year-old man, until he crumples to the ground about 30 feet away.

Santana also said he didn’t see the officer render any first aid to Scott after he was on the ground. Santana said he was so shaken by what he had wit-

Witness: Officer didn’t warn man before he shot him 8 times

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—An eyewitness whose cellphone video put a South Carolina police officer in jail on a murder charge said Wednesday that he did not hear the white officer give any warning before he fired eight times at the back of a black man who can be seen in the footage running away before he falls to the ground.

Feidin Santana told NBC News that while walking to work Saturday morning, he saw Officer Michael Thomas Slager

controlling Walter Lamer Scott on the ground, and began recording when he heard the sound of a Taser. “Mr. Scott was trying just to get away from the Taser,” said Santana, a barber originally from the Dominican Republic. “He was just looking for a way to get away from the police.”

Slager initially claimed he fired in self-defense after the suspect he had pulled over for a broken brake light grabbed his Taser.

Santana’s recording documented a different scenario. It

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT	
INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB15-DPS-072 (CIF-SAI PAN)	
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 05, 2015	TIME: 10:30 AM
“OCCUPANT PROTECTION/CHILD RESTRAINT MESSAGE TRAILER FOR SAIPAN DPS TRAFFIC SECTION”	
COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.	
THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN ANY BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.	
/S/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRERO COMMISSIONER, DPS	/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAM DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT	
INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB15-DOC-068 (A-J)	
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 05, 2015	TIME: 10:00 A.M.
“PROCUREMENT OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT & PRINTERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, CENTRAL STATISTICS DIVISION”	
COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.	
A SINGLE OR MULTIPLE CONTRACTS WILL BE AWARDED PURSUANT TO THIS INVITATION TO BID.	
THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.	
/S/ MARK O. RABAULIMAN SECRETARY OF COMMERCE	/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAM DIRECTOR, P&S

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION	
INVITATION FOR BID	
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)	
BID SUBMISSION DATE: April 23, 2015*** TIME: 10:00 AM	
AMENDMENT	
NMHC IFB 2015-004	
HOME REHABILITATION LOCATED IN KOBELVILLE LOT NUMBER 005 I 272	
Interested contractors may pick-up proposal packets on March 27, 2015, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by cash, credit card, money order or cashier’s check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).	
A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on April 14, 2015, at the NMHC Conference Room, Saipan.	
This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).	
/s/ Tom Glenn A. Quitugua Board Chairman & Contracting Officer	/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAM Director, Division of Procurement & Supply

brother, telling the jury: “If not for Tamerlan, it would not have happened.” She repeatedly referred to Dzhokhar—then 19—as a “kid” and a “teenager.”

Prosecutors, however, portrayed the brothers—ethnic Chechens who moved to the United States from Russia more than a decade ago—as full partners in a brutal and coldblooded plan to punish the U.S. for its wars in Muslim countries. Jihadist writings, lectures and videos were found on both their computers, though the defense argued that Tamerlan downloaded the material and sent it to his brother.

Tamerlan, 26, died when he was shot by police and run over by his brother during a chaotic getaway attempt days after the bombing.

The government called 92 witnesses over 15 days, painting a hellish scene of torn-off limbs, blood-spattered pavement, ghastly screams and the smell of sulfur and burned hair.

ACROSS THE NATION

Governor, advocate seek answers in Utah inmate’s death

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Utah’s governor called for answers Wednesday in the death of an inmate whose dialysis providers failed to show up for treatment. A few hours after the governor’s statement, the corrections department said that inmates have complained before about dialysis providers not showing up for appointments. Gov. Gary Herbert’s office called the situation tragic. “It is unacceptable the inmates did not receive the medical care they needed when they needed it,” Herbert spokesman Marty Carpenter said in a statement. “The governor has called for a full investigation by the Dept. of Corrections Law Enforcement Bureau, so we can fully understand what went wrong, who was responsible and determine the appropriate actions to make sure it never happens again.” Earlier Wednesday, Herbert told KSL Radio that inmate’s death is “hard to comprehend.” “I would expect even the inmate themselves would say, ‘I’m supposed to have a treatment. Where is the guy? Why is he not here?’ ”

Herbert said.

Family of man found hanging in Mississippi wants information

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—Lawyers hired by the family of a black man who was found hanging in Mississippi said Wednesday that they are hiring independent experts, including a high-profile forensic pathologist, to conduct an investigation separate from the one pursued by state and federal authorities. Otis Byrd, 54, was found hanging by a sheet from a tree near his home in the small southwestern Mississippi town of Port Gibson on March 19. Authorities are trying to determine if he was killed or took his own life. He had been reported missing about two weeks before he was found. “At this point, the family believes that it’s not suicide,” attorney Dennis Sweet IV said during a news conference in Jackson. The FBI told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the agency shared autopsy results with the Byrd family on March 24, five days after his body was found. Agents have not released that information to the public and would not do so Wednesday.

Asia

ASIA BRIEFS

NKorea says it deports American for plotting, making videos

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea has deported an American woman who frequently visited the country over the past 20 years, accusing her of engaging in “plot-breeding and propaganda.” North Korea’s state media said Wednesday that Sandra Suh had traveled to North Korea “under the pretense of ‘humanitarianism,’” but that she had secretly produced and directed anti-North Korean videos and photos because of her “inveterate repugnancy” toward Pyongyang. Suh arrived on a flight to Beijing on Thursday but made no comments to reporters there. A U.S. Embassy official in Seoul didn’t immediately have details about the report. State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf in Washington said Wednesday she could not confirm any of the details that have been reported about the woman.

Filipino family appeals to Indonesia to save convicted maid

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Family members of a Filipino maid facing the death penalty after being convicted of drug trafficking in Indonesia made a last-minute appeal Wednesday for clemency to the country’s president. The parents, siblings and two young sons of Mary Jane Veloso delivered an open letter to President Joko Widodo to the Indonesian Embassy and appealed for “mercy and compassion” for the 30-year-old single mother. The letter said Veloso was tricked by a compatriot into carrying 2.6 kilograms (5.7 pounds) of heroin in a luggage and says she was a victim of drug syndicates. Indonesia’s highest court last month rejected a judicial review petition by Veloso, who is among 10 foreigner drug smugglers facing death by a firing squad. “We are begging for mercy beloved President (Widodo), don’t impose the death penalty on my daughter,” said Veloso’s mother, Celia Veloso.

Body of Israeli girl found after Thai boat catches fire

BANGKOK (AP)—Thai officials say they have found the body of a 12-year-old Israeli girl, the only fatality from a tourist boat that caught fire in the Andaman Sea in the country’s southwest. The rest of about 110 passengers and crew were rescued on Wednesday after the boat sank in flames off the coast of Krabi province. Krabi deputy governor Narong Woonchew said the girl’s body was recovered by a team of up to 50 navy, marine police and national park officers who were searching for her since the sinking. The girl was vacationing with her parents and was believed to be in the restroom when the fire broke out on the boat. Police are investigating the cause of the fire.

Afghan soldier kills 1 US soldier, several others injured

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—An Afghan soldier shot and killed a U.S. soldier and wounded several others Wednesday before being shot dead, the first so-called “insider attack” to target NATO troops since they ended their combat mission at the start of the year.

The shooting happened after Afghan provincial leaders met a U.S. Embassy official at the compound of the Nangarhar provincial governor in the city of Jalalabad. All U.S. Embassy staff were accounted for and safe, the diplomatic mission said.

“Right after the U.S. official had left, suddenly an Afghan army soldier opened fire on the U.S. soldiers who were present in the compound,” said Afghan Gen. Fazel Ahmad Sherzad, the police chief for eastern Nangarhar province.

The American troops returned fire, killing the Afghan soldier, whom Sherzad identified as Abdul Azim of Laghman province.

The motive for his attack was not immediately known and no group claimed responsibility for the assault. In past attacks,

Taliban insurgents have been known to wear Afghan police or military uniforms to stage attacks on the international troops. Others have opened fire apparently on the own accord, like an Afghan soldier who last year killed Maj. Gen. Harold J. Greene, the highest-ranked U.S. officer to be slain in combat since 1970 in the Vietnam War.

The attack was the second fatality suffered by NATO since the beginning of the year. The last incident in which an American soldier was killed in Afghanistan was on Dec. 13, when a roadside bombing killed two U.S. troops in Parwan province. Also, an Afghan soldier killed three American contractors on Jan. 29 in another apparent insider attack.

NATO confirmed that one of its soldiers died in Wednesday’s attack, without providing the nationality of the slain soldier. A Washington official confirmed the soldier was American, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn’t authorized to release the information before an official announcement was made.

Century Finance Company, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

Accountant

Associate’s Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in a financing or commercial/credit loan business. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO and Loan Management Information Systems, MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Finance Company, Ltd. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, April 24, 2015.

Century Finance Company, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Zoning Planner

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Zoning Planner. This is a full-time position on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Duties and Responsibilities: Manage complex permit applications including pre-application consultations, application intake, review for compliance, assuring compliance with timelines and public notice requirements, coordinating interagency consultations, and preparation of project recommendations and reports as assigned by the Administrator; Prepare recommended updates to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Zoning Law, Zoning Board regulations, and zoning office guidelines; Coordinate, as appropriate, with other agencies and secure project reviews and recommendations; Identify and seek resolution of interdepartmental concerns; Educate and inform the public and applicants about the Saipan Zoning Law and related permit requirements and procedures; Maintain records using paper and electronic media and a Geographic Information System; Perform other duties as assigned.

Minimum Requirements: Graduation from an accredited four year college or university with a Bachelor’s Degree in engineering, architecture, urban planning, environmental science, geography, economics, political science, natural science, business administration, or related field, plus a minimum of 4 years of experience in any combination of land use planning, zoning, or related field. Other requirements include proficiency with office software including MS Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Outlook Explorer.

The salary range is \$40,000, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Health, life, and retirement benefits are provided. Information about the Zoning Board and the Zoning Office may be viewed at the Zoning Board website: www.zoning.gov.mp. Application submittals should be addressed to Therese T. Ogumoro, Zoning Administrator. Submittals may be sent via e-mail, FAX, U.S. mail, or hand delivered to the address below. Submittals must include a letter of interest, a CNMI Application for Employment, and a resume. The Application for Employment may be downloaded from the publications page of the Zoning Board website. Applicants must be US citizens, permanent residents, or immediate relatives. Send submittals to: E-mail: Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp; FAX: 670-234-9666; US Mail: Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 USA. Hand Delivery: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan.

The deadline to receive application and all requirements is April 21st, at 4:30pm.

Tibet chief demands monasteries display Chinese flags

BEIJING (AP)—Tibet’s Communist Party chief has demanded that Buddhist monasteries display the national flag as part of efforts to shore up Chinese control over the restive region.

In an editorial appearing in state newspapers, Chen Quanguo wrote that national flags should be among the key elements found in monasteries.

Demands to display Chinese flags have frequently sparked protests by Tibetans who complain of heavy-handed Chinese rule. Tibetan monks and nuns are among the most active opponents of Chinese rule in the re-

gion and face some of the harshest restrictions on their activities.

Chen also called for stepping-up legal and patriotic education in the monasteries—particularly on China’s regulations and restrictions on religious life and institutions—along with activities to select model temples, nuns and monks who display “advanced patriotism and obedience to law.”

“Let the broad masses of monks and nuns be even more conscious of patriotism, obedience to law, and the promotion of religious harmony,” Chen wrote. “Guide them in the adaption of Tibetan Bud-

dism to socialist society.”

The flag display demand violates Tibetan Buddhist tradition and underscores the extent of China’s determination to control all aspects of the religion, said Bhuchung Tsering, vice president of the London-based advocacy group International Campaign for Tibet.

“While China continues to tell the world that Tibetans enjoy religious freedom and autonomy, its top official in Lhasa is engaged in an ideological campaign to turn Tibetan monasteries into ‘patriotic centers,’” he said in a statement.



is inviting qualified U.S. Citizens to apply for the following vacant positions

Position: International Cooks (25)

Qualifications: 2 years experience as a cook in a high volume restaurant or hotel. Must have problem solving abilities, be self-motivated and organized. Must be able to stand on feet for long periods of time. Must be flexible to work a varied schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Position: Demi Chef (3)

Qualifications: 4 years work experience in a high volume restaurant or hotel as a Demi Chef. Comprehensive knowledge of kitchen hygiene practices and occupational health and safety standards are essential. Proven track of food preparation, presentation and preservation knowledge is an essential. Must be a dedicated team player with the ability to work in a multicultural environment. Willing to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Position: Sous Chef (1)

Qualifications: 5 years previous kitchen management/supervisory experience is required preferably from a large volume restaurant or hotel. Must have understanding and knowledge of safety, sanitation and food handling procedures. Able to work in a team environment; must have problem solving abilities, be self-motivated and organized. Committed to quality service and food and beverage knowledge. Ability to work calmly and effectively under pressure. Able to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Position: Electrician (1)

Qualifications: 5 years work experience in this field is required. Provide access for future maintenance and avoid unreliable wiring, consistent with verification and electrical codes, and other related duties as assigned. Capable of reading schematic diagram and electrical symbols, knowledgeable on industrial electricity, circuit breakers, switches and controls. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Position: General Maintenance Worker (2)

Qualifications: 2 years work experience as a Handyman is required and preferably in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects. Possession of a driver’s license is essential. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Position: Front Desk Manager (1)

Qualifications: Must have a minimum of three (3) years progressive experience in Front Desk supervisory level required preferably from a high volume hotel. Strong communication skills both oral and written and demonstrated leadership abilities are essential. Must be able to analyze data and make decision based on prior experience and knowledge of circumstances to prepare daily and weekly forecasts of expected arrivals and departures. Must have an energetic and dynamic personality and able to multitask. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Position: Guest Relations Agent (1)

Qualifications: High School Graduate or equivalent. 1 year previous work experience as guest relations agent in a high volume or full service hotel is highly preferred. Language speaking skill in Japanese, Korean or Chinese is advantageous. Strong customer service and communication skills are essential. Must have good problem solving skills. Must be able to multi-task and is a team player. Knowledge of computer applications is required.

Position: Electrician (1)

Qualifications: 2 years experience as electrician in commercial, industrial and residential building electrical works is required. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including nights, weekends and holidays.

Position: Carpenter (1)

Qualifications: 2 years carpentry experience required. Incumbent in this classification is exposed to restricted movement, extreme temperature and intense noise inherent to carpentry positions. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

Position: Carpenter - Supervisor (1)

Qualifications: 3 years work experience in this field in a supervisor level is required. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects. Incumbent in this classification is exposed to restricted movement, extreme temperature and intense noise inherent to carpentry positions. Must be able to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

Position: A/C Refrigeration Mechanic (1)

Qualifications: 4 years experience in this field is required. Must be able to read electrical wiring diagrams, and control diagrams. Must be able to troubleshoot refrigeration equipment. Must be able to obtain and maintain required certification in this field. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, nights, weekends and holidays.

Application forms may be obtained and submitted to our Security Office located on the South Wing of Fiesta Resort & Spa. Deadline for submission of applications to be considered is April 16, 2017.

Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer

World

Iran sends navy vessels to waters off Yemen, raising stakes

SANA, Yemen (AP)—Iran dispatched a destroyer and another naval ship to waters off Yemen on Wednesday, raising the stakes amid a Saudi-led air campaign targeting Iranian-backed Shiite rebels fighting forces loyal to the country's embattled president.

The Iranian maneuver came as the U.S. deepened its support for the Saudi-led coalition, boosting weapons supplies and intelligence-sharing and carrying out the first U.S. aerial refueling mission of coalition fighter jets.

The Iranian warships were sent to the strategic Bab al-Man-



In this picture taken on Tuesday, April 7, 2015, and released by the semi-official Fars News Agency, Iranian warship Alborz, foreground, prepares before leaving Iran's waters.

dab strait as part of an anti-piracy campaign to "safeguard naval routes for vessels in the region," Sayyari was quoted as saying

Iranian Rear Adm. Habibollah Sayyari was quoted as saying by the English-language state

broadcaster Press TV.

Securing navigation in the narrow strait was a key reason for the Saudi-led air and maritime blockade that began after Yemen's internationally recognized president, Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, fled the country two weeks ago as the rebels closed in on Aden, Yemen's second-largest city where he was based.

The fighting has pitted forces loyal to Hadi against the Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, and allied military units who back ousted President Ali Abdullah Saleh. Critics say Shiite powerhouse Iran backs the Houthis, though both the Islamic Repub-

lic and the rebels deny any direct military assistance.

On Wednesday, Iranian Parliament Speaker Ali Larijani condemned the Saudi government, accusing it of committing crimes against humanity in Yemen during airstrikes that hit civilian areas. His comments, carried by the official Iran news agency, came as Iranian diplomats worked to erode support among Sunni nations for the air campaign, visiting Pakistan and Turkey, both supporters of the Saudi-led coalition, and Oman, the only Gulf country that has abstained from participating in the military operation.

Suffering rises as militants take over refugee camp in Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—When hundreds of Islamic State militants muscled into the Yarmouk refugee camp last week and planted their black flags amid the charred, blown-out buildings, it was the latest trial for the remaining Palestinians who for two years have endured a suffocating government siege, starvation and disease.

The dire situation in the camp appears certain to deteriorate as the extremist group looks to consolidate its hold and establish a presence near the heart of the Syrian capital.

It is a high-stakes fight whose outcome may determine the direction of the civil war around Damascus, where President

Bashar Assad has maintained a firm grip despite the presence of thousands of rebels in surrounding suburbs.

"The situation is catastrophic. There is barely food and water, and the only functioning hospital has long run out of medication," said a resident of the camp who communicated by writing on condition of anonymity Wednesday because of safety fears.

Heavy clashes continued in the camp, a week after extremists from the Islamic State group burst in from the Hajar Aswad district south of Damascus. They had settled in that area after being pushed out of regions east of the capital by Islamic rebels last year.

WORLD BRIEFS

Homicides in El Salvador reach record as gang violence grows

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP)—El Salvador had more homicides in March than any other single month in a decade, a dark milestone that some attribute to the collapse of a gang truce and one that could mark a trend of greater violence to come. Data from the National Civil Police show 481 homicides recorded last month, or more than 15 a day. April's start is no better, with 73 killings reported in the first five days. At this rate, El Salvador is on pace to surpass Honduras as the deadliest peace-time country in the world. Gang-on-gang violence, as well as attacks on police and Salvadorans in general is spiking in what authorities say is an attempt by gangs to pressure the government to negotiate issues raised as part of a 2-year truce that fell apart in 2014. Others see it as a reaction to the new government's iron-fist approach to the country's two major gangs, Mara Salvatrucha and 18th Street.

Islamic State group releases over 200 captive Iraqi Yazidis

BAGHDAD (AP)—The Islamic State group released more than 200 Yazidis on Wednesday after holding them for eight months, the latest mass release of captives by the extremists targeted by U.S.-led airstrikes and an Iraqi ground offensive. Gen. Hiwa Abdullah, a peshmerga commander in the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk, said most of the freed 216 prisoners were in poor health and bore signs of abuse and neglect. He added that about 40 children are among those released, while the rest were elderly. No reason was given for the release of the prisoners who were originally abducted from the area around Sinjar in the country's north. The handover took place in Himera just southwest of Kirkuk, 290 kilometers (180 miles) north of Baghdad. The freed captives wept and called out to God when greeted by their families, some so weak they lay on the arid ground. Women wiped away tears with their long headscarves. "We are very happy now," said Mahmoud Haji, one of the released Yazidis. "We were worried that they were taking us to Syria and Raqqa," the Islamic State group's de facto capital.

In Humble Gratitude

Thank you for grieving with us. Thank you for praying with us and for us. May God's love abound to you today and always, and may His blessings enrich your lives with wisdom, fortitude, and grace.

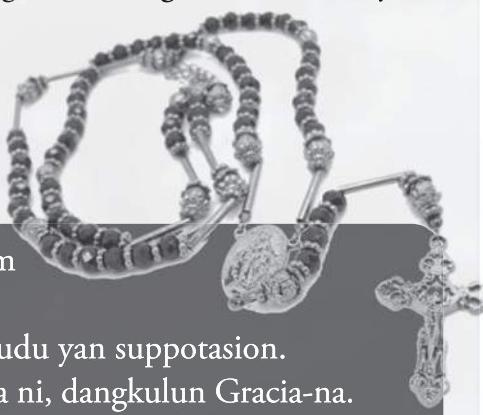
We, the family of the late
†Maria Indalecio Palacios
“Nan Yaeko”

Wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to our friends and relatives, from near and far, who have unselfishly came to be with us in so many ways expressing words of wisdom, comforted us and embraces us with love as we mourned the unlimate passing of our dearly beloved mother and grandmother.

Your thoughts and prayers, love and support have helped ease the pain in the loss of our beloved. Our deepest appreciation to the Very Reverend Fr. Ryan P. Jimenez, Fr. Kenneth Hezel, SJ., Fr Issac M. Ayuyu, Fr. James S. Balajadia, Fr. Rey Rosal, Fr. Tinong Daynos and Fr. Jesse Reyes for the Mass of Christian Burial Celebration. Thank you for the services of the Kristo Rai Altar Servers and the Kantaye Kristo Rai and the Oloomwaay Family Chior. Our heartfelt appreciation to our techa, Ms. Marcy P. Cepeda and the members of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Ms. Esther S. Fleming for reciting the Last Rosary.

To the doctors and nurses and staff of CHCC – Thank you. To the Marianas Visiting Nurses staff, thank you for the care and compassion extended to our mother.

Sen dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase para todos I humasuye ham parehu-ha fi finattyon miyu yan lokkue gi tinayuyut miyu.
In sen ga'um I korason mame nu I man sen dangkulu na ayudu yan suppotasion.
Puedi si Yu'us u benendise hamyo, puedi si Yu'us in fan Inina ni, dangkulun Gracia-na.
Puede un nina'e yan I familian-mu PAS.



Children and Families of the late

†Dr. Francisco Taman Palacios and †Maria Indalecio Palacios

In Celebration of Her New Life

†*Justa Quitano Camacho*

Lovingly known as “Nan Tuta”

July 19, 1929 – April 4, 2015

In her New Life, she now joins her:

Husband: †Vidal Acosta Camacho
Father: †Manuel Concepcion Quitano
Mother: †Rita Roberto Quitano
Father-in-Law: †Mariano Palacios Camacho
Mother-in-Law: †Valeriana Acosta Camacho

Brothers, Sisters, In-Law:

†Jose R./†Maria T. Quitano
†Angela Q./†Jose Palacios
†Pilar R. Quitano
†Francisco R. Quitano
†Pedro T. Sablan

†Antonio A./†Lolita S. Camacho
†Jose A. Camacho
†Santiago A./†Carmen DL Cruz Camacho
†Juan A./†Rosa Cruz Camacho
†Carmen C. Sasamoto
†Victorino S./†Maria C. Deleon Guerrero

Her smile and kind heart will forever be cherished by her:

Children and families:

Rita Q. Camacho
Elizabeth C. and Ernest M. Sablan (children and grandchildren)
Vicente Q. and Erica V. Camacho (children and grandchild)
George Q. Camacho and Lydia S. Sablan (children grandchildren and great grandchild)
Juan Q. and Lisa C. Camacho (children)
Ellen Q. Camacho
Manuel Q. Camacho (children and grandchild)
Emmerita Q. Camacho

Reared Children and families:

Dr. Manuel Q. and Magdalena B. Sablan (children and grandchildren)
Margarita S. McQuay (children and grandchildren)
Ronald C. and Rose Roberto (children and grandchildren)

Sister and In-laws:

Elena Q. Sablan, Victoria C. Quitano, Juana M. Camacho, Jose Sasamoto

She will also be dearly missed by her many cousins, nieces, nephews, godchildren, relatives, and friends.

Mass of Intention for the repose of her soul is being celebrated daily at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00am. Holy Rosary is prayed at 7pm at Kristo Rai Church each night.



Funeral services will be held on Monday, April 13, 2015. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 8:00am to Mount Carmel Cathedral. Responso service will be held at 8:30am, immediately followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am, followed by Interment services at Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers. Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

The Children and Family of the late †Vidal Acosta Camacho and †Justa (Nan Tuta) Quitano Camacho

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Surprise! Utah man dons polo shirt, ends at table with Obama

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Last week, 26-year-old Lance Futch donned a white polo shirt and drove to Hill Air Force Base for what he believed was a chance to be in the audience during a news conference with a “senior White House official.” Instead, he found himself sitting at a small table just one seat away from President Barack Obama. “If I had known it was my commander in chief, I definitely would have been wearing my blues,” said the national guardsman, referring to the Air National Guard’s dress uniform. The White House had asked Lehi-based company Vivant Solar to send a representative with military affiliation to the base during Obama’s visit last week. The company chose Futch, who designs solar cells and is serving his fourth year in the Utah Air National Guard.

Puppy rescued after falling 50 feet into old well casing

FRESNO, Calif. (AP)—A puppy in California apparently is doing OK after he fell about 50 feet down an old well casing and was rescued by firefighters. Fresno Fire Department spokesman Pete Martinez says the puppy dropped into the uncovered metal pipe Tuesday in

a Fresno garage. The pipe was about 8 inches in diameter. The Fresno Bee reports it took firefighters about an hour to recover the dog named Timmy, which appeared to be a shepherd mix and only a few months old. They lowered a knotted rope into the hole, looped it around the puppy’s legs and torso, and pulled him to safety.

Burger King to pay for the wedding of Mr. Burger, Ms. King

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)—Burger King is paying the expenses and providing gifts for the wedding of an Illinois couple with an interesting connection to the fast food restaurant chain. Joel Burger and Ashley King accepted the company’s proposal Monday. The State Journal-Register reports that the couple has been known as Burger-King since they were in the fifth grade together, in New Berlin near Springfield.

The couple announced their engagement this spring with a photo next to the sign at a local Burger King restaurant. Although a woman’s name usually comes first in an engagement announcement, they decided to flip their names. A Burger King spokesman says the company felt an overwhelming urge to help the happy couple celebrate their upcoming marriage.

400-pound alligator moved from Texas pond to preserve

GROVES, Texas (AP)—A 400-pound alligator safely hauled out of a Southeast Texas pond has a new home at a tourist attraction that caters to gators. Gator Country preserve owner Gary Saurage (sarj) said Tuesday that the 11-foot reptile joins more than 400 other alligators at the preserve in Beaumont, Texas. Saurage got the animal after a landowner in nearby Groves called about an aggressive alligator in a rural pond where children swim. Saurage went to the swampy site to rope and remove the male alligator, which he estimates is 35 to 40 years old. Saurage says the alligator is healthy and that he’s happy to give the “majestic animal” a new home.

Some NJ Transit trains smell like mulch farm

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—A funky smell is not growing on some New Jersey Transit train passengers. The trains are kept at a rail yard about a quarter of a mile from a mulch factory in Morrisville, Pennsylvania. Officials believe the smell has permeated some rail cars. NJ Transit spokesman William Smith tells NJ.com the agency has received 11 complaints about the smell. The agency is exploring its options.

In Celebration of his New Life †Manases Pangelinan Castro

Lovingly known as “Moi Pagan”
September 19, 1942 – April 5, 2015

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents: †Santiago Villagomez Castro
†Maria Pangelinan Castro
Parents-in-law: †Patricia Empressa Gamao
Erlinda Berticio Gamao

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Maryanne G. Castro

Brothers, Sisters, In-laws:

†Daniel P. / Victoria A. Castro and Children
†Luis P. / Antonia F. Castro and Children
Pedro P. / †Antonetta A. Castro and Children
†Eugenio P. Castro and Children
Luisa C. / Robert Blewett and Children

Children:

Edwin A. / Yoshie Castro and Children & grandchildren
Carina A. Castro and Children & grandchildren
Juan A. / Keiko Castro and Children & grandchildren
Steven G. Benson and Eli Jay P. Teregeyo and Child
EJay G. Castro
Mariana G. Castro
Robert S. Castro

He will also be missed by numerous relatives and friends.

Daily mass of intention is being celebrated at 6:00pm at San Antonio Church.

On Monday, April 13, 2015, at 7:30am, his remains will be escorted from the CHCC Morgue to San Antonio Church. Responso service will commence at 8:30am immediately followed by the holy rosary.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed by interment services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery, where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers.

**Thank you, Si Yu’us Ma’ase and Salamat Po,
Maryanne Castro, Children and Family**

Science & Technology

YouTube to give viewers ad-free option for a monthly fee

LOS ANGELES (AP)—YouTube will soon give viewers the option of paying a monthly fee to skip ads.

On Wednesday, the online video service sent a letter to its most-popular content creators asking them to sign off on new contract terms to allow for the change.

It’s not clear when the option will be offered or how much the fee will be.

A YouTube spokeswoman declined to confirm specifics but said in a statement, “giving fans more choice to enjoy the content they love and creators more opportunity to earn revenue are always amongst our top priorities.”

The streaming video service owned by Google Inc. first offered pay channels in May 2013 and also launched a paid subscription, ad-free music ser-

vice called Music Key to select participants in November.

The moves are all part of a strategy to diversify its revenues, although advertising remains its core. At a media conference in October, YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki said ad-free subscriptions represent an “interesting model” and that the service was exploring how to give its users options.

Science Matters

Arctic life as the climate changes

Much attention has been paid to the plight of the polar bear, whose icy habitat is shrinking with global warming. A new study of 201 Alaskan species examined how others will fare.

‘Niches’ are fixed; habitat isn’t

- 1 Every living thing needs a specific mix of food, temperature, shelter, predators, etc.—its biological “niche”
- 2 As habitat changes; some species find more opportunity, and some find less

Biggest gains in habitat



Biggest habitat losers



Source: U.S. Forest Service; Climatic Change; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; M. Tracy Hunter photo; Tribune Photo Service
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

TECH Q & A

How cable cord-cutters can use DVRs

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: We’re ready to cut the cable TV cord and rely on over-the-air broadcast TV along with online video streaming services. But what kind of digital video recorder will we need?—Marilyn Pennoyer, Blaine, Minn.

A: There are several high-definition DVRs designed for recording over-the-air TV. Some also receive streaming TV shows via a home Wi-Fi network, although they lack the software to record the streaming video. In addition, some DVRs can both play recorded shows on your TV and transmit them wirelessly to smartphones or tablet computers. See tinyurl.com/qcwv4x5. There aren’t many consumer

options for recording streaming Internet video, partly because there’s not much reason to do it—the vast majority of shows are always available online. So a PC with “video capture software” remains the best DVR substitute for video streaming. For examples, see tinyurl.com/nu-3o9mv and tinyurl.com/7tuwkyr.

Q: I’m having trouble getting AM and FM radio reception in my home. While I get perfect reception on my vehicle radios, I get only static on the house radio. I’ve purchased several different radios for my home, but it hasn’t made any difference. What should I do?—Paul Blesener, Cottage Grove, Minn.



Also make sure those devices and cables aren’t between your radio and the broadcast station you’re trying to receive. If that doesn’t solve the problem, try to maximize reception by moving the radio closer to a window or external wall, or by changing the height, location or direction of its antenna. If that doesn’t work, you may need an external antenna, located either inside or outside the house.

In Celebration of His New Life

†Jesus Aguon Omar

October 05, 1964 – April 06, 2015

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father:	†Joaquin Rogolifoii Omar
Mother:	†Angelica Aguon Omar
Father In Law:	†Darrow Bechab
Mother In Law:	†Tatsko Darrow
Reared Mother:	†Dolores Rogolofoi Saralu
Brother:	†Jeffrey A. Omar
Brother In Law:	†Sasao Ikeya

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife:	Sermong Olga Omar
Children and Spouse:	Tyrone Omar and Kristy Diaz Kimo Darrow Omar Kimrah Dolores Omar Cecilia Kileleman and Family Angelina Teregeyo Bernadita Iguel and Family Carmen Teregeyo and Family Vicente and Amalia Teregeyo and Family Henry Somol and Family
Reared Siblings:	

He is survived by:

Brothers and Sisters and Spouses:	Edward and Anna Omar Elena and Alejandro Falig Dimas and Ayako Omar Joseph A. Omar Rosa and Eddie Castro Julita A. Omar James and Marylou Omar Jovita A. Omar Jennifer A. Omar
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Brothers, Sisters In-Law and Spouses:	Haidy Ikeya Caleb and Marenica Darrow Marie and Faustino Roberts Laurette Darrow Joshua and Monica Darrow Annie and Quay August Gerda Darrow Penelope Seman Blanco Yamada Nico Techur Kimberly K. Omar
--	--

Godchildren:	
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He will also be missed by his numerous uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

Holy Rosary for the repose of His soul are being prayed daily at Santa Remedios Church at 7:00pm.

Funeral services will be held beginning Monday, April 13, 2015. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 4:00pm to their residence in Tanapag. Holy Rosary will be prayed at 7:00pm, followed by Responso service at 7:30pm. There will be an overnight wake/bela on Tuesday, April 14, 2015. Holy Rosary will be prayed at 7:00am.

His remains will be transferred to Bithen Delos Remedios Church in Tanapag for viewing and last respect at 9:00am.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am followed by Interment service at Tanapag Cemetery.

Please join us in prayers,
Thank You - Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Sermong Olga, Children and Family

Life & Style

'GoT' star Kit Harington: a quiet force as Jon Snow

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Shhhh!

"Quiet" and "still" aren't words you might associate with "Game of Thrones." HBO's epic fantasy, set in the make-believe continent of Westeros, typically swirls with warring armies, forbidding landscapes, even fire-breathing dragons.

But Jon Snow embodies the meditative quality that regularly quells words and movement by the characters in favor of a moody immersion in this vast realm for the audience.

Through this universe roams Jon Snow, the illegitimate son of Lord Ned Stark and an outcast, a brooding warrior with haunted eyes, shaggy curls and a rosebud mouth from which few words issue.

That's the way Kit Harington, who plays Jon, likes it, as "Thrones" begins its fifth season Sunday at 9 p.m. EDT on HBO.

"He's not a complicated character," says Harington, a compact but buff Brit of 28 whose earnest, subdued manner at an interview this week seems not so far removed from Jon's.

But that, perhaps, is where the similarity ends.

"There's a lot of turmoil, a lot of frustration and rage churning inside Jon—and that's where he keeps it," says Harington. "He doesn't overthink what's going on with him. He's not a modern man. He's not seeing a shrink."

Jon Snow looms large in a crush of characters portrayed by an evolving ensemble of stars who also include Peter Dinklage, Lena Headey, Nikolaj Coster-Waldau and Emilia Clarke. And while the scale of



it—a YEAR out of drama school! It's amazing, too big a thing to process.

"The part that feels real for me is doing the show! Walking onto set with CGI giants and talking about Valyrian steel—that's the most real part of my life. This"—his arms sweep the Manhattan hotel lounge, including the reporter beside him—"is the unreal. My real life is more like fantasy than performing the actual fantasy."

Shooting "Thrones" consumes roughly half of each year, and during his annual hiatus he has snagged other projects. One of them, his 2014 film "Testament of Youth," will get its U.S. release in June.

"It's a beautiful and harrowing true story of a young woman who lost all the men in her life in the First World War," says Harington, who plays one of those men, starring alongside Alicia Vikander ("Anna Karenina"). "It's a good, old-fashioned weepie, and I got to wear a wig and no beard, which was refreshing."

But acting may not be forever, he cautions, "and I have to look ahead and figure what I want to do. I don't sit back and think that I want to be an actor for life. It has to keep proving itself that it's fulfilling me. Otherwise, why am I doing it?"

"Thrones" is renewed through at least a sixth season, which starts production in July, he says.

"But I can't tell you whether I'll go back to work in July," he adds, acknowledging the ever-present threat that Jon Snow, like any "Thrones" character, won't survive Season 5. "Might, might not."

Don't expect spoilers from a man who knows a few things about quiet.

television role.

It might have just been fate.

"What I've always responded to when watching actors is their stillness. When they're not making too many choices. When they're concentrating on what's going on up here"—he taps his temple—"rather than showing everybody what's going on with gestures. I believe in stillness, and that's how I like acting myself. Not doing too much.

"Maybe that's what they wanted for Jon."

Go figure: an action hero known for his stillness, and, by the way, an unwitting heartthrob. Welcome to Harington's world.

But what is he enjoys about this line of work?

"I keep asking myself that," he laughs before hazarding an answer. "I like the moments: moments in a performance, moments of truth," he says, declar-

ing himself helpless to be any clearer. "The moments you find that no one else will ever know about—I like those best."

Moments—another breed of moments that continue to surprise him—have compounded for Harington with his nearly instant stardom in a TV sensation.

"What's that LIKE?" he says, echoing the interviewer's question with a rare, broad grin. "I achieved it—or got given

Catching up with 'Game of Thrones' as Season 5 begins

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

Battling warriors and wrangling dragons on "Game of Thrones" is easy. Weathering the bitter cold north of The Wall is a snap.

What's difficult is keeping track of all the storylines and remembering how things were left hanging when last season ended all those months ago.

With the return of "Thrones" for its fifth season on Sunday at 9 p.m. EDT on HBO, here's a reminder of what some of the characters were up to, way back then. And if you're not caught up, spoiler alert:

■ Jon Snow was attempting to broker peace with the wildling army of Mance Rayder, self-styled King-Beyond-the-Wall, when Mance's camp was attacked by troops led by One-True-King Stannis Baratheon.



■ Mance Rayder was taken prisoner by Stannis, who ordered him to kneel in surrender, something Mance, a stubborn sort, refused to do.

■ Stannis Baratheon left the strong impression, yet again, that he's not the forgiving type.

■ Tyrion Lannister, often dismissed for his diminutive stature but tough as nails, let loose a couple of fatal bolts from his crossbow at his father, Lord Tywin Lannister, who had it coming. After this execution, Tyrion was whisked away by Varys, a eunuch, and the two set sail for freedom.

■ Brienne of Tarth, a towering woman and would-be knight, was determined to fulfill her pledge to save the headstrong girl Arya Stark from the grip of thuggish Sandor Clegane, as she nearly killed him in a brawl. But Arya refused to join her and vanished from sight.

■ Arya Stark, hardened by her hard young life on the run, took vengeance on her captor, Sandor, by refusing to put him out of his misery with her sword as he lay gravely wounded after his rumble with Brienne. She left him dying in agony as she took off solo for the city of Braavos.

■ Sandor Clegane—aka The Hound—was last seen begging in vain for Arya to "Kill me!"

■ Queen Daenerys Targaryen realized to her dismay that she could no longer restrain her beloved pet dragons from creating havoc. She led the smaller two into the catacombs beneath the city, then, weeping, locked them in chains and left them there. But Drogon, the largest and most aggressive, went missing after skewering a child with his fiery breath, begging the question: How do you round up a dragon that's on the loose?

In this image released by HBO, an injured Sandor Clegane, better known as The Hound, portrayed by Rory McCann, left, and Arya Stark, portrayed by Maisie Williams, appear in a scene from season four of "Game of Thrones." The season five premiere airs on Sunday.

Jon Cryer writes about 'Pretty in Pink' & Charlie Sheen

NEW YORK (AP)—Fans of "Pretty in Pink" may be surprised to learn that Jon Cryer's character, Ducky, was supposed to get the girl.

The ending of the 1986 film, directed by John Hughes, was reshot with Ducky giving Andie (Molly Ringwald) his blessing to ditch him at the prom for Blaine (Andrew McCarthy). Cryer writes in his new book, "So That Happened: a Memoir" (New American Library).

He also writes about his personal life and his career ups and downs, and gives his account of "Two and a Half Men" co-star Charlie Sheen's wild exit from the CBS series. (Ashton Kutcher

joined the show after Sheen's firing.)

Cryer said Sheen knew he was writing a book that included him and he was "fine with it."

"I even asked him if I could print a bunch of his texts and he agreed. His only request was that I correct his grammar," Cryer, 49, said with a laugh in a recent interview.

Associated Press: You write that you didn't bond with Ringwald and McCarthy while filming "Pretty and Pink." Where you worried about their reaction?

Cryer: I did reread that portion of the book recently be-



Cryer

cause a couple people had mentioned it and said, 'Oh, it sounds like they were mean to you.' They weren't. They're just different people. They're very reserved and keep to themselves. And I'm not that way at all. And I think I was pretty abrasive. I was 19 so I was this (points to self) without the maturity. That might've been a lot for them to handle, so I never quite felt that we gelled.

AP: What was your intention when writing about Charlie Sheen?

Cryer: Everybody who's had

somebody in their life who has gone through an addiction goes through this process. First you see the little things that should've been tip-offs, but you didn't want to judge and you didn't want to, and then it gets gradually worse and worse until there's an incident that is just undeniable that it's an issue and then you see the roller coaster of them trying to either pull their life out of it and getting worse and deeper. It's an awful process, but in our case it just happened on this world stage and so was in that respect really different and I felt like writing about that was something of value that I could bring to a book.

AP: At the end of the book you

thank Ashton Kutcher for teaching you about fearlessness. What did you mean by that?

Cryer: Because when he first started the show it was the highest profile cast replacement that I'd ever seen. You know the meltdown had been this whirlwind of international proportions and then to step into that willingly (laughs), you know, and he came in without just the slightest hesitation. He was ready to work. He was happy to do it. He didn't care about his image. He just wanted to make a funny show and he was willing to go wherever the writers wanted to take him and I just thought wow, to come into this with that great an attitude was just remarkable.

AP: What did you learn about yourself from the process of writing this book?

Cryer: I sort of realized, 'Well, there must've been something I loved about the craziness of show business when I was young that made me attracted to it despite my obvious defects. (Laughs and points to his face.) So, there must've been something that made me say, 'Yeah, it's crazy, but I want to do it anyway.' And so when I looked back on it that way I started thinking, 'Well, I guess my life is just things getting crazier and crazier as my career went on' culminating with the craziness that went on backstage at 'Two and a Half Men.'

First lady: Secret Service agents taught Malia how to drive

WASHINGTON (AP)—Some teenagers get driving lessons from their parents. Other teens are taught by licensed instructors.

But Malia Obama isn't your average 16-year-old: Her driving lessons were provided by the U.S. Secret Service.

Asked who taught Malia how to drive, first lady Michelle Obama told celebrity chef and daytime talk-show host Rachael Ray in an interview that it was

the armed agents who provide around-the-clock security for the family.

"The Secret Service, actually, because they wouldn't let me in the car with her," Mrs. Obama said in an excerpt of the interview that was released by Ray's program. The full interview is set to air Thursday.

Mrs. Obama hasn't driven herself in seven or eight years, she said.

She added that driving gives Malia "a sense of normalcy," helping her feel like the rest of her friends who are also driving. "And my kids have got to learn how to live in the world like normal kids."

When Ray says that the Obamas seem "so grounded," the first lady replies that her "hope is just to make sure that they (her daughters) come out of this thing as functioning adults, you know?"

Malia also drives herself around Washington, Mrs. Obama said.

"She always has security around but in order for her to learn how to drive she had to drive on her own," the first lady said during a separate interview on "Live! With Kelly and Michael" earlier this week. "So once she was legally permitted to drive on her own, she gets in her car."

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP)—American television star Kim Kardashian has arrived in the capital of her ancestral Armenia for a visit expected to draw attention to the centennial of the massacre of 1.5 million Armenians.

Armenia formally marks the killings by Ottoman Turks on April 24. Armenia calls the killings a genocide, a view widely supported by scholars, but Turkey vehemently rejects the term, maintaining that the figure is inflated and that many people on both sides died.

Kardashian is expected to visit the vast complex in Yerevan, the capital, that commemorates the victims.

A large crowd of journalists witnessed her arrival at the capital's airport on Wednesday.

Kardashian's ancestors emigrated to the United States in the late 19th Century.

Kim Kardashian comes to Armenia



Kim Kardashian walks on her arrival in Yerevan, Armenia, Wednesday, April 8, 2015. AP

Mother of five tests limits of cousin's ability to help

DEAR ABBY: My cousin "Opal" and I grew up together. We were always close. She has gone through some rough times, and I have been trying to help her out.

She has five children (ages 10 to 2) and I have one child who is 13. The fathers of her children are not helpful. I recently completed my education and am looking for work, so money is tight.

Opal doesn't feed her kids before bringing them over or provide diapers for the little one. She promises to reimburse me, but rarely does. Most of the time I keep my mouth shut because I know she doesn't make much as a server. How can I make her understand that even though I have only one child that doesn't mean I have the money to help her out with her five?

Also, when I baby-sit her children, they are rowdy and destructive. But if I try to raise the subject, it creates tension between us.

I love Opal. I want to help her. But when is it enough? I don't want to withdraw my help completely, but it has become more than my household can bear.

CARING COUSIN IN MISSOURI

DEAR CARING COUSIN: Nothing will change until you are ready to tell Cousin Opal enough is enough and set some strict rules. That she has had five children with different dead-beat boyfriends is not your fault. One accidental pregnancy—or even two—can happen. But FIVE should be a clue that your cousin is irresponsible.

Tell Opal that unless her children are fed before they arrive and she provides diapers, you will no longer baby-sit for her. (It wouldn't be a bad idea to tell her to include some snacks as well.) Tell her that before her children come over she is to instruct them to be on their best behavior. Her household may be chaotic because there are no rules—so don't blame those children for their bad behavior.

When they arrive, tell them that in YOUR house there are rules. Explain clearly what they are and that there are rewards for good behavior. Make clear that if they can't be good, they won't be welcomed back without their mother.

If the penalty for drawing the line is that there is tension between you and your cousin, the upside will be that you will be taken advantage of less often.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 49-year-old gay man who has been in a relationship with my partner, "Alex," for almost 25 years. We plan to have a silver anniversary party in July. When I mentioned it to my two sisters, both had similar reactions—it's not "appropriate" and "silver anniversaries are for married couples and you're not married."

Abby, is it wrong to celebrate a silver anniversary with Alex? If not, should I send invitations to my two sisters?

LONG-TERM IN LONG BEACH

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR LONG-TERM: Of course it's not wrong! The option of marriage wasn't available to gay people 25 years ago. A quarter of a century together is something to celebrate.

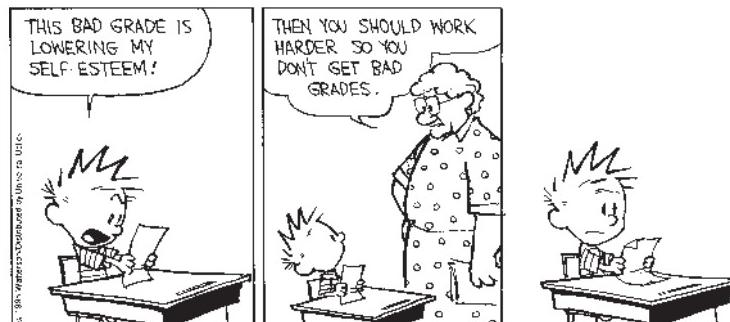
Knowing your sisters' feelings, you'd be justified in excluding them from your guest list. However, consider taking the high road and inviting them anyway. Then, whether they attend or not becomes their decision.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

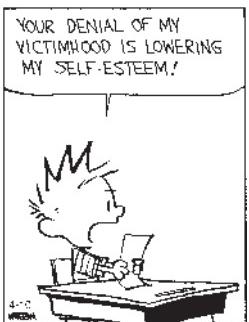
For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

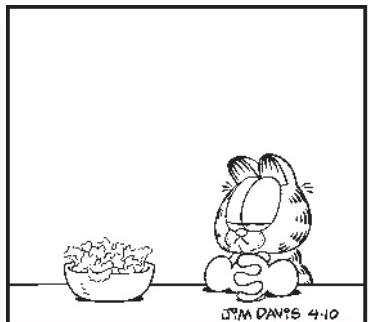
Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®



By Jim Davis



Adam@home

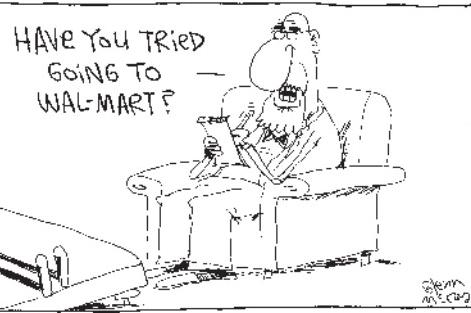


By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS		47 Actor	3 Word	24 Make	up your
1	Pompous	McBride	on the	mind	
4	sort	48 Insecticide	street?		
7	Upper limit	alternative	4 Birthday	25 Encountered	
12	Excavate	52 Annoy	party	26 Prior to	28 West of
13	Wire measure	53 Hunter in the sky	must-	27 Hollywood	Holly-
14	Dhabi	54 Patriotic chant	have	29 Chicken-	wood
15	Overact	55 Writer	5 Tolerates	30 King	king
16	Literary collection	Harper	6 On the plump	link	link
17	Ransom-note writer	56 First Oscar-winning film	7 Out of play	31 —	—Magnon
18	Author Fleming	57 Remunerated	8 Mischievous tyke	32 Science workshop	
19	Double-sword	58 "Undeniably"	9 Bush league?	33 Mimic	
20	Nearby	10 Salt Lake tribe member	10 Salt Lake access	36 Freeway	
22	Spud bud	11 Apiece	11 Nobel-winning Mother	37 Nobel-winning	
23	A handful	DOWN	40 Drink eagerly	38 Mother	Mother
27	Early hrs.	1 With full force	42 With aloofness	41 Salver	
29	Neat and stylish	2 Egyptian peninsula	43 Crowd?	48 Acknowledge	
31	Bow or Barton	Solution time: 25 mins.	44 Trail trips	applause	
34	Starbucks order		45 Lacking	49 Spoon-bender	
35	Jay Z, e.g.		50 Martini ingredient	Geller	
37	Sailor		51 Last king of	52 Gadget	
38	Do what you're told		Albania		
39	Brewery product				
41	Close friends				
45	Brainy				



Yesterday's answer 4-10

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alex Pettyfer, 25; Haley Joel Osment, 27; Shay Mitchell, 28; Dion Phaneuf, 30.

Happy Birthday: Communication, travel and learning are all favored this year. Being a participant and sharing your thoughts and plans will help you reach your goals. Set the stage for what you want to see happen. If you set examples, you will encourage and attract the help you need from worthwhile contributors. Honest communication will lead to workable solutions. Your numbers are 7, 19, 21, 26, 29, 35, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Share information and knowledge and build good relations with people who move in the same professional circles as you. Invest time and money in the way you present yourself to others. Don't let disappointment deter you from pursuing your goals. ☀️☀️

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A lack of discipline will lead to problems at home. Don't let indulgence take over. Focus on being the best you can be. Learn from past experience and strive for perfection. Love is in the stars. Set aside time for romance. ☀️☀️

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Opt to make changes that will bring about a better home environment. Good fortune will result if you have a discussion with a potential client or employer. Don't limit what you can do. Discipline and divergence will pay off. ☀️☀️

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Mix business with pleasure. Socialize with colleagues and clients. Changes in your relationship will be to your advantage if you are

willing to compromise. Don't hold back when it comes to commitment. Share your feelings and strive for equality. ☀️☀️

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Social events should include colleagues. The more you network, the greater your chances of getting ahead. You'll gain valuable information that can give you an edge when an opening of interest becomes available. Show versatility and make an impression. ☀️☀️

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Romance should be high on your list of priorities, along with self-improvement and doing whatever it takes to stay healthy mentally, physically and financially. Greater involvement in social activities will lead to an unusual opportunity. ☀️☀️☀️

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Refuse to argue over petty matters. Join a cause you believe in and you will make a difference and also meet someone you enjoy spending time with. A serious assessment of your current situation will lead to a workable solution. ☀️

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep matters concerning your relationships in perspective. Overreacting will not help you resolve a pending problem. Use your intuition to guide you when dealing with emotional matters. Romance will improve your personal life. ☀️☀️☀️

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Devise a plan and stick to it. You will have the chance to excel if you display your talents, skills and enthusiasm. Negotiations, settlements and money matters will turn in your favor. A change at home will improve your life. ☀️☀️

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Listen to what's being said, but don't share personal information with anyone. A change in the way you feel about someone is likely to cause a problem that can infringe on your privacy. Take a moment to re-evaluate what you want. Romance is highlighted. ☀️☀️

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Use discretion in all your dealings with friends, relatives or people in your community. Don't offer money or time to others when you should be putting your efforts into your own advancement. Prospects look good, so act now and excel. ☀️☀️☀️

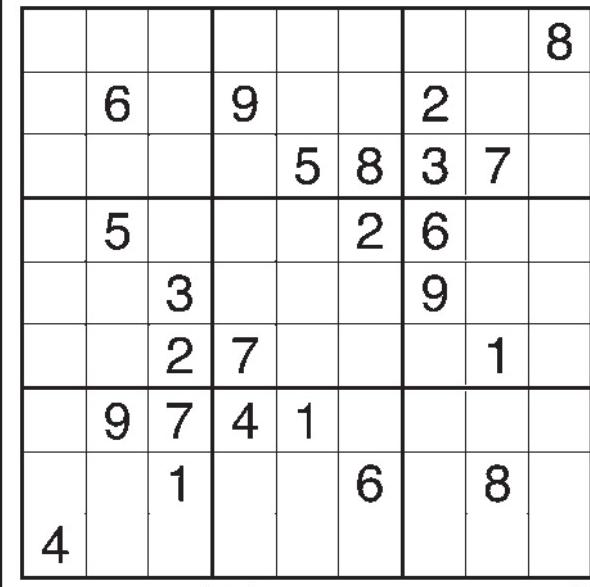
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Refrain from being a follower or chameleon. Don't let anyone play with your emotions or lead you astray. Do whatever it takes to make the improvements that will help you achieve a better position, reputation or a happier and brighter future. ☀️

Birthday Baby: You are competitive, articulate and clever. You are inventive and goal-oriented. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

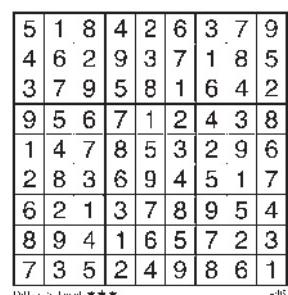
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

'BIG HERO 6' (MOVIE)

Solution: 6 letters

K	O	B	A	Y	M	A	X	K	I	T	A	E
R	G	Y	I	B	S	A	W	O	H	S	R	A
E	O	R	E	L	L	I	M	J	T	M	M	Y
I	G	B	H	N	L	T	I	S	D	O	E	A
H	E	R	O	E	S	Y	N	A	Y	Y	E	N
A	L	I	S	T	A	I	R	U	K	A	I	N
M	L	L	A	H	N	O	D	O	A	A	V	E
W	N	E	W	S	C	A	S	T	E	R	H	F
I	O	I	D	H	O	N	E	Y	L	E	M	O
L	S	M	E	I	A	D	T	A	D	A	S	H
L	R	A	R	P	O	B	E	R	T	O	N	A
I	E	J	F	①	A	B	I	G	A	I	U	A
A	G	N	A	H	G	A	L	L	A	C	U	N
M	A	N	I	M	A	T	I	O	N	A	D	R
S	P	E	C	I	A	L	S	S	A	C	H	R

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Yesterday's Answer: Garment
The WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #2 is here! Purchase one at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

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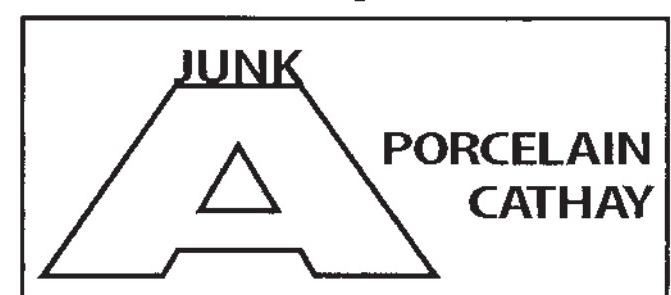
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Magic, Oladipo spoil Rose's return in 105-103 win over Bulls



ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—Victor Oladipo had 23 points and scored on a layup with 1.5 seconds left to give the Orlando Magic a 105-103 victory over Chicago on Wednesday night, spoiling Derrick Rose's return to the Bulls.

Nik Vucevic added 22 points in the Magic's third straight win.

Rose started and played for the first time in more than a month since undergoing surgery on his right knee. The point guard was 3 of 9 from the field and finished with nine points in 19 minutes.

The Bulls had a final chance with 1.5 seconds remaining, but an inbounds pass by Mike Dunleavy to Pau Gasol at the rim sailed out of bounds.

Jimmy Butler had 19 points for Chicago. Gasol, Taj Gibson and Nikola Mirotic each added 15.

Cavaliers 104, Bucks 99

In Milwaukee, Kyrie Irving scored 27 points and the Cavaliers clinched the Central Division title and the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference.

LeBron James scored 21 points with nine rebounds and eight assists for the Cavs, including 10 points in the fourth quarter. Kevin Love added 16 points and 11 rebounds.

Michael Carter-Williams scored 30 points for the Bucks, while Zaza Pachulia added 19 points and 10 rebounds. Milwaukee played without Giannis Antetokounmpo, although it wasn't immediately clear why he sat out.

Spurs 110, Rockets 98

In San Antonio, Tony Parker scored 27 points and the Spurs got their ninth straight victory.

The Spurs moved within a half-game of the Southwest Division lead shared by Houston and Memphis.

San Antonio will face Houston on Friday night in the closing game of a home-and-home set.

Kawhi Leonard added 20 points, Boris Diaw had 15 points and Manu Ginobili 13 for San Antonio. The Spurs led by as many as 22 points after a slow start.

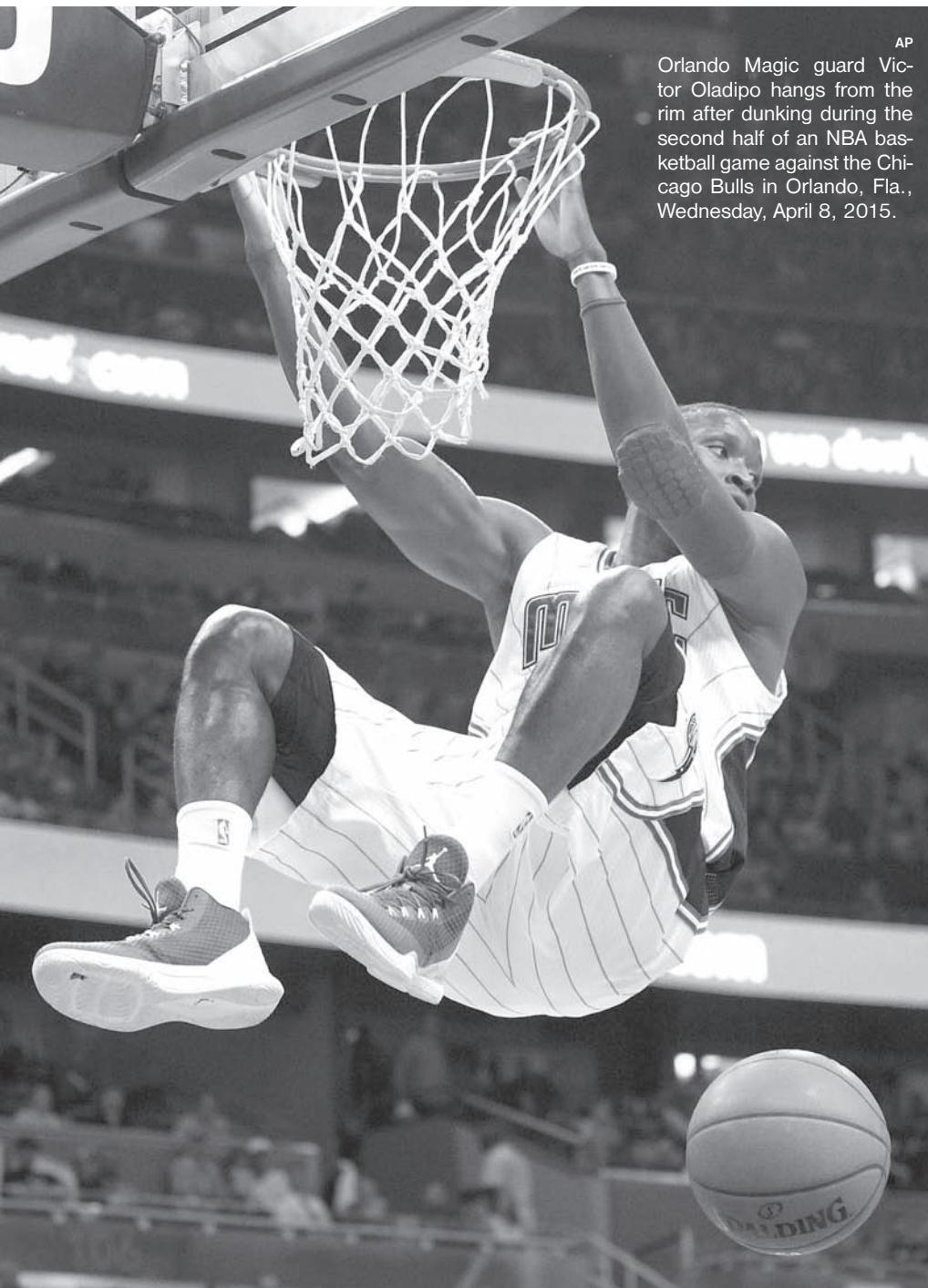
Jason Terry led Houston with 22 points and Trevor Ariza added 19 points. James Harden had 16 points, but only three after the first quarter.

Wizards 119, 76ers 90

In Philadelphia, Bradley Beal scored 21 points and Washington shot a franchise-record 65.3 percent from the field in a blowout victory over Philadelphia.

The Wizards rested All-Star guard John Wall, ending his consecutive games streak at 208.

Ramon Sessions added 19 points, and Marcin Gortat had 18 points, seven rebounds, six assists and four blocks to help Washington win its fourth straight game.



AP
Orlando Magic guard Victor Oladipo hangs from the rim after dunking during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Chicago Bulls in Orlando, Fla., Wednesday, April 8, 2015.

Trying to earn home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs for the first time since 1979, Washington remained a game behind fourth-place Toronto in the Eastern Conference.

Detroit's Stan Van Gundy, who had already been guaranteed the first losing season of his coaching career, will also miss the postseason for the first time.

Robert Covington scored a career-high 27 points on 8-for-11 shooting for the Philadelphia. The 76ers have dropped seven straight.

Raptors 92, Hornets 74

In Charlotte, N.C., DeMar DeRozan scored 18 points and Toronto beat Charlotte for the first time in seven games.

Lou Williams and Greivis Vasquez each scored 16 points for Toronto, and Tyler Hansbrough added 12 points and 12 rebounds.

Kemba Walker had 15 points for Charlotte. The Hornets are 11th in the Eastern Conference, three games behind eighth-place Boston for the final playoff spot.

Celtics 113, Pistons 103

In Auburn Hills, Mich., Isaiah Thomas had a season-high 34 points as the Celtics picked up a key victory and eliminated Detroit from playoff contention.

Thomas needed only 17 shots to put up his huge numbers, going 10 for 17 from the floor. He hit four of his eight 3-pointers, and went 10 for 11 from the line.

The victory moved Boston

into a tie for seventh with Brooklyn in the Eastern Conference.

Detroit's Stan Van Gundy, who had already been guaranteed the first losing season of his coaching career, will also miss the postseason for the first time.

Jae Crowder added 17 for Boston, while Reggie Jackson had 21 points and 15 assists. Greg Monroe had 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Pistons, and Andre Drummond added 22 points and 14 rebounds.

Hawks 114, Nets 111

In New York, Al Horford made the go-ahead basket on a dunk with 19 seconds remaining, and the Hawks completed a season sweep.

Playing without injured All-Star Paul Millsap and further short-handed after Pero Antic and Thabo Sefolosha were arrested early Wednesday and didn't play, the Hawks recovered after blowing a 12-point, fourth-quarter lead.

Horford scored 24 points and Mike Scott had 20 points and eight rebounds for the Hawks. They won their third straight and improved to 59-19.

Brook Lopez had 26 points and 10 rebounds for the Nets.

Grizzlies 110, Pelicans 74

In Memphis, Tenn., Zach Ran-

dolph had 15 points, 13 rebounds and six assists for Memphis.

The victory came at a time when Memphis seemed to be reeling, having lost four of its last six to drop to the third seed in the West.

Jeff Green and Marc Gasol also each had 15 points, and Gasol added six assists and eight rebounds. Ben Udrih finished with 14 points, and Vince Carter and Mike Conley had 10 each.

Anthony Davis scored 12 points for the Pelicans. They dropped back into a tie with Oklahoma City for the Western Conference's final playoff spot. Quincy Pondexter had 11 points, and Tyreke Evans 10 in the Pelicans' most-lopsided loss of the season.

Pacers 102, Knicks 86

In New York, the Pacers stayed close to the final Eastern Conference playoff spot. George Hill led the Pacers (35-43) with 20 points. Roy Hibbert had a double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds.

The win tied the Pacers with the Miami Heat, one game off the final playoff spot behind the Boston Celtics and Brooklyn Nets.

Langston Galloway led the Knicks (15-63) with 19 points.

The Pacers road a suffocating

vors scored 18 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and blocked three shots in a matchup of non-playoff teams. The Jazz have won five of six.

Favors was a steady force in a choppy game between teams missing their best players. DeMarcus Cousins sat with a foot injury for the Kings, while Gordon Hayward played just 19 minutes for the Jazz.

Rodney Hood finished with 20 and a career-high seven rebounds, Rudy Gobert had 12 points, 10 rebounds and two blocks. The Jazz erased a six-point halftime deficit in the third quarter and started the fourth with an 18-5 run.

Omri Casspi led the Kings with 16 points, while Jason Thompson added 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Bearing down: Jack Nicklaus makes hole-in-one at Par-3

AUGUSTA, Ga.

(AP)—Jack Nicklaus thrilled the crowd Wednesday at the annual Masters par-3 contest, making a hole-in-one on the fourth hole.

The six-time Masters champion, playing in the exhibition at age 75, spun an iron shot back into the hole for the ace.

His ball bounced twice, then took a third hop before retreating into the hole. Nicklaus was congratulated by playing partners Ben Crenshaw and Gary Player.

Nicklaus acknowledged the ovation from the crowd, raising his arms in the air with a double fist-pump.



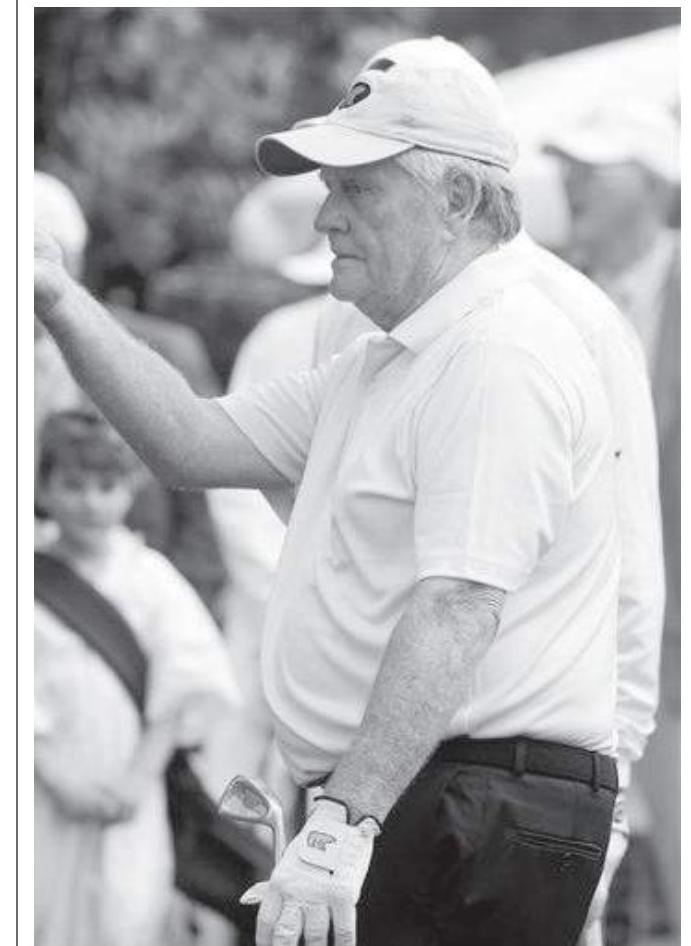
He says he may have called his own shot.

"It's funny, I had an interview this morning and I said, 'Well, all I've got to do is go out and win the Par-3 and make a hole-in-one,' and I make a hole-in-one," Nicklaus said.

The 63-year-old Crenshaw seemed as excited as Nicklaus about the shot. Crenshaw will tee off for his 44th and final Masters on Thursday.

Nicklaus said he likes playing the Par-3 because it's not long.

"I actually hit two more shots that hit right around the edge of the hole, had a chance to go in," he said. "I didn't finish up very well, but we had a lot of fun."



AP
Jack Nicklaus watches his tee shot during the Par 3 contest at the Masters golf tournament Wednesday, April 8, 2015, in Augusta, Ga.

Gonzalez homers 3 times to lead Dodgers past Padres, 7-4



LOS ANGELES
(AP)—Adrian Gonzalez

hit three home runs, becoming the first player in major league history with five in the season's first three games, and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the San Diego Padres 7-4 Wednesday to win their opening series.

Gonzalez had a four-hit game to go with consecutive three-hit games on Monday and Tuesday, becoming the first National League player to do so since Orlando Cepeda of San Francisco had three straight three-hit games in 1963.

Gonzalez homered in four consecutive at-bats dating to Tuesday before his RBI single in the sixth.

The Dodgers rallied from a 2-0 deficit in the first to help Brandon McCarthy (1-0) earn his first win.

Cubs 2, Cardinals 0

In Chicago, Jake Arrieta allowed three hits over seven innings and Starlin Castro had a go-ahead RBI single in a two-run seventh, leading the Cubs over the Cardinals for their first win this season.

Backed by just two hits from Chicago's offense, Arrieta (1-0) struck out seven and walked three. Phil Coke, Neil Ramirez, Pedro Strop and Hector Rondon combined for hitless relief.

Tigers 11, Twins 0

In Detroit, Anibal Sanchez helped Detroit blank Minnesota for the second straight game, Jose Iglesias had four hits and Alex Avila scored four runs.

Ian Kinsler drove in four runs for Detroit, which had beaten Minnesota 4-0 on opening day. Sanchez (1-0) allowed three hits and two walks in 6 2-3 innings while striking out six.

Angels 5, Mariners 3

In Seattle, Albert Pujols hit his 521st home run to move into 18th place on baseball's career list and the Angels held on for a victory over the Mariners.

Pujols' home run, a two-run shot off Hisashi Iwakuma (0-1) in the first inning, tied him with Hall of Famers Ted Williams, Willie McCovey and Frank Thomas.

Braves 2, Marlins 0

In Miami, A.J. Pierzynski hit a two-run homer and five pitchers combined on a six-hitter to help Atlanta complete a three-game sweep.

The season-opening sweep was the first for the Braves since 2007, and they outscored Miami 16-3 in the series.

The 38-year-old Pierzynski, playing in his first game with his newest team, broke up a scoreless tie in the seventh inning against Tom Koehler (0-1).

Phillies 4, Red Sox 2

In Philadelphia, Jeff Francoeur

hit a three-run homer, and Aaron Harang (1-0) took a one-hitter into the seventh inning.

Making his Red Sox debut after signing an \$82.5 million, four-year contract through 2019, Rick Porcello (0-1) allowed three runs and six hits in six innings.

Harang gave up two hits, walked one and struck out eight in 6 1-3 innings in his first start for the Phillies. Jonathan Papelbon got four outs against his former team for his first save.

Yankees 4, Blue Jays 3

In New York, Chase Headley hit a tiebreaking single that deflected off the wrist of reliever Brett Cecil as New York rallied for three runs in the eighth inning.

Pinch-hitter Chris Young opened the eighth with a bloop double that eluded rookie second baseman Devon Travis, Jacoby Ellsbury singled, and Aaron Loup (0-1) loaded the bases when he hit Brett Gardner with a pitch.

Young scored on a wild pitch by Cecil, who forced in the tying run when he plunked McCann with a pitch. Headley hit a one-hopper that caromed off Cecil's right wrist and past shortstop.

Nationals 2, Mets 1

In Washington, Jordan Zimmermann (1-0) didn't quite pick up where he left off in 2014, when he threw a no-hitter to close the

regular season, but he only allowed one run in six innings.

Ryan Zimmerman hit a two-run homer in the first off NL Rookie of the Year Jacob deGrom (0-1).

Closer Drew Storen had a 1-2-3 ninth for his first save.

Rays 2, Orioles 0

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Jake Odorizzi (1-0) allowed two hits and struck out seven in 6 2-3 innings, and Tampa Bay coaxed four consecutive walks with two outs to score the go-ahead run.

Baltimore's Miguel Gonzalez (0-1) retired the first two batters in the Rays sixth, then walked Evan Longoria and Desmond Jennings. Pinch-hitter Brandon Guyer and Logan Forsythe drew walks from Brian Matusz to give the Rays their first lead of the year.

Jeff Beliveau, Kevin Jepsen and Brad Boxberger finished the three-hitter as the Rays gave rookie manager Kevin Cash his first victory and avoided being swept in the opening series at Tropicana Field.

Indians 2, Astros 0

In Houston, Carlos Carrasco struck out 10 while pitching three-hit ball into the seventh inning, Carlos Santana and Mike Aviles each homered and the Indians got a win over the Astros.

Carrasco (1-0) walked one in

6 1-3 innings a day after signing a four-year contract.

Santana put Cleveland up with his homer in the fourth inning and Aviles added an insurance run with his home run to the Crawford Boxes in left field in the eighth.

Cody Allen pitched a perfect ninth for his first save.

Royals 7, White Sox 5

In Kansas City, Mo., Lorenzo Cain hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the eighth inning for his third hit and the Royals beat the White Sox.

Cain homered off Zach Putnam (0-1), the fourth White Sox pitcher, after Alcides Escobar led off the inning with a single for his third hit.

Wade Davis (1-0) struck out two in a scoreless eighth. Greg Holland, who had 46 saves last year, worked the ninth for his first save.

Rockies 5, Brewers 4, 10 innings

In Milwaukee, pinch-hitter Wilin Rosario homered in the 10th inning after being scratched from the starting lineup, leading the Rockies to a win over the Brewers.

Rosario initially was in the Rockies' batting order in place of Justin Morneau, who was hit in the neck by a ball while running the bases on Tuesday night. Morneau took batting practice and

talked his way into the lineup, sending Rosario to the bench for the third straight game.

The big right-handed hitter, however, hit a full-count pitch from Milwaukee closer Francisco Rodriguez (0-1) over the wall in center field, giving the Rockies a three-game sweep in the season-opening series.

Athletics 10, Rangers 0

In Oakland, Calif., Scott Kazmir struck out 10 and was backed by a couple of rookies getting their first big league hits, and the Athletics beat the Rangers.

Mark Canha hit a three-run double for his first major league hit in the third and added an RBI double in the sixth for four RBIs.

Fellow rookie Tyler Laenden-dorf hit an RBI triple for his first hit earlier in the third and had two RBIs. Kazmir (1-0) received all the support he needed and then some for the new-look A's.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 2

In Phoenix, Chris Heston pitched six effective innings in a combined five-hitter for his first big league win, Casey McGehee hit a two-run homer and the Giants beat the Diamondbacks.

Heston (1-0) had a wild pitch and a throwing error that led to Arizona's runs, but shook off both to win in his second big league start.

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Island Manpower, Jake's Catering win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Island Manpower and Jake's Catering drew first blood in the semifinal round of the 2015 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Jake's Catering outclassed

its regular season tormentor SSFM/New Garapan Market in the first game, 74-69, while Island Manpower pounded Eye Sees, 64-52. The four semifinalists will have two more games each and the Top 2 teams after the round-robin Final Four will duke it out for the champion-

ship.

Island Manpower earned its first win in the semis after catching Eye Sees flatfooted at the start of the fourth quarter. Island Manpower was only ahead by four at the end of the third, 42-38, when it dropped a 14-4 bomb to estab-

lish a 56-42 advantage, 5:27 left in the game.

Island Manpower pulled away behind the defensive stops of Pete Lizama and Jerome Norita's fastbreak layups off touchdown passes, while Eye Sees collapsed after committing cost turnovers and failing to go back to quickly on defense.

Eye Sees' inability to play transition defense resulted to Norita's 8 fastbreak points, while Derrick Rangamar also got away with a couple of easy layups. On defense, Island Manpower's Pete Lizama tapped the ball away from driving Eye Sees' players on several occasions and also blocked a few shots.

Norita paced Island Manpower with his 18 points, while Lizama finished in twin digits, too, with his 15. Jun Tabora and Rangamar chipped in 14 and 12, respectively. Angelo Fernando led Eye Sees with his 16 markers, while Erick Dela Rosa had a quiet 10 markers.

In the second game, Derrick



year by Shoji Murakami, Tamura Kenji, FUJIWARA, Total Tenbos, Kentaro Uno, Izumono Okuni and Moriyasu Ban Ban Bigaro.

"The Saipan Marathon is race...and also something like a party," said Duenas. "Many runners opt to wear costumes or other unique attire. We're looking forward to a great race again this year."

The 10th Saipan Marathon will feature marathon, half-marathon, 10K, and 50K courses.

Registration for the 50K and marathon is \$65 for U.S. and NMI participants, and \$55 for half-marathon and 10K participants. Registration will include the awards banquet, a finishers T-shirt, and a certificate of com-

pletion.

The start will take place at the American Memorial Park at 4am for the 50K and the Marathon, at 5am for the half-marathon, and at 5:45am for the 10K.

The cut-off time for the 50K and marathon will be 8:30am at the halfway point in front of Bridge Capital in Garapan.

All competitors are required to pick up their race packets on April 24, 2015, at American Memorial Park, without exception.

Entry forms are available at the MVA office located on Beach Road in San Jose or on the MVA official website Event Calendar at www.mymarianas.com. For more information contact Ed Diaz at the MVA at 664-3210 or through email at ediaz@mymarianas.com. (MVA)

the travel is airfare."

He said that he would talk to the NMSA board on how to subsidize Team CNMI's travel to Papua New Guinea.

White said that Papua New Guinea is preparing hard for the Games. "They have a ton of money invested and has set the bar so high that one would wonder how the other countries can compete."

He added that the athletes' village, which is walking distance from the main stadium, has dorms where each room will house five people. The first floor is reserved for males while the second is for females.

Although the rooms are not air-conditioned, White said that it has enough electric fans and

its windows are covered by screens to let the cool breeze in and protect the athletes from mosquitoes.

Games organizers have also invested in making sure reliable transportation is available for the use of the delegates as well as having enough security.

White also reminded Team CNMI to submit copies of their passport pages and photos on April 15.

"The photo must be taken with a white background. It is just a head and shoulder shot and you must not be wearing anything on your head."

The CNMI will be competing in athletics, beach volleyball, bodybuilding, golf, swimming, triathlon, and va'a.

me finish the game. This is once in a lifetime experience a rookie could get. I am really happy being coached by one of the greatest mentors in the Philippines," added Cruz.

Cruz, who averaged 12 points per game and 43 percent shooting from the field in the series, had a breakout performance in ROS' semis series against Meralco in a Game 2 92-82 win. He finished with 15 points including a 3-of-5 clip from beyond the arc.

His tough defense also helped contain Meralco chief gunner Gary David from connecting with his outside shots.

His exploits earned him a co-Accel-PBA Press Corps Player of the Week honors with teammate Paul Lee for the period of March 30-April 5.

And Cruz's work ethic earned

a lot of praise from the fiery Guiao, who said that the rookie guard's defensive plays and scoring ability are the reasons why they picked him in the draft.

"That has been his character and style since he was playing for the Adamson Falcons. He has the toughness that we're looking for the team," added Guiao, who is also a representative of Pampanga province's first district in the country's House of Representatives.

Cruz, on the other hand, said he was surprised and didn't expect to earn the PBA Press Corps' weekly honors with teammate Lee.

He dedicated his exploits to the people of the CNMI. "I hope I inspired the kids back home and I hope to make the island proud. This one is all for you back home."

Aguon and White Capalad towed Jake's Catering to victory after playing a solid fourth quarter.

Aguon drilled 9 of his 18 points in the final canto, while Capalad added 7, including a pair of free throws that sealed it for Jake's Catering. Jake's Catering scored its last 4 markers from the foul line with Aba Tagle and Aguon's splits adding to Capalad's two charities.

Jake's Catering faced a 46-48 deficit entering the fourth quarter and managed to grab the upper hand and the win behind the combined efforts of Aguon and Capalad, while SSFM leaned heavily on Michael Espinosa.

Meanwhile, the semis round will continue tonight with SSFM needing to win against Island Manpower in the first game at 6pm to keep its finals hopes alive. In the second match at 8pm, Jake's Catering challenges Eye Sees.

First Game

Jake's Catering 74 – Aguon 18, Capalad 13, Gamboa 13, Manalo 10, Tagle 6, Rivera 6, Garcia 5.

SSFM 69 – M. Espinosa 31,



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Island Manpower's Jerome Norita scoops a layup against Eye Sees' Angelo Fernando, left, and Jomar Manzano, while teammate Derrick Rangamar slides in the paint for the rebound play during the fourth quarter of their playoff game in the DLX caging last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

SONICS

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backing for the team after missing the entire first period.

In the second period, the Ol'Aces scored the first basket off Allen Yu's baseline drive, however they went cold in the next four minutes and change before Karlo De Leon canned a short jumper at the 5:17 mark of that canto.

The Ol'Aces continued to rally and finish the half with back-to-back triples from Jesse and Jon Santos to slice the deficit to single digit at the break, 22-29. The Ol'Aces moved closer after the third period, 37-42, and put up a good fight in the fourth behind the hot shooting of Jesse Santos, but fell short in the end as De Guzman made the dagger.

The victory was the Sonics' second in as many games after they won their debut over Gilas/MDX, 69-59. The Ol'Aces played only their first game this season.

Meanwhile, in the Masters division, Armatech won its opening game against Graphics/Star 6, 79-63.

Armataech secured the easy win after outgunning Graphics/Star 6 in the third period, 22-6.

Before the third-quarter turn-around, Armataech was behind by a deuce, 34-36. Five Armataech players converted at least two baskets apiece in the third to turn a two-point deficit to a 14-point advantage, 56-42.

Graphics/Star 6 never made any headway in the fourth period, as Armataech even doubled-up the former's output in the final canto, 23-11, en route to the 26-point winning margin.

First Game

Armataech 79 – Abuy 18, Montano 14, Moreno 12, Tobias 11, Berline 7, Malasarte 6, Bartolo 4, Poquiz 2.

Graphics/Star 6 53 – Dela Cruz 9, Pablo 8, S. Ebuen 8, Tibayan 8, Gonzales 6, Abadilla 6, O. Ebuen 2, Garcia 2, Bustista 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-21, 34-36, 56-42, 79-53.

Second Game

Sonics 58 – Aranda 16, Rabast 12, Flores 9, Ogasawara 8, De Guzman 5, Tekopua 2, Ito 2.

Ol'Aces 56 – Je. Santos 16, Jo. Santos 14, Muna 7, Yu 6, Palino 4, Nakashima 3, De Leon 2, Lampkin 2, Dee 2.

Scoring by quarters: 10-10, 29-22, 42-37, 58-56.

Rabasto 13, Ong 8, Bisana 7, Velasco 6.

Scoring by quarters: 14-16, 31-30, 46-48, 74-69.

Second Game

Island Manpower 64 – Norita 18, Lizama 15, Tabora 14, Rangamar 12, Tobias 3, Teregeyo 2.

Eye Sees 52 – Fernando 16, Dela Rosa 10, Manzano 9, Directo 8, Espinosa 5, Lim 4.

Scoring by quarters: 8-8, 28-25, 42-38, 64-52.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Toronto 46	32	.590	—	
Boston 36	42	.462	10	
Brooklyn 36	42	.462	10	
Philadelphia 18	61	.228	28½	
New York 15	63	.192	31	

Southeast Division

z-Atlanta 59	19	.756	—
x-Washington 45	33	.577	14
Miami 35	43	.449	24
Charlotte 33	45	.423	26
Orlando 25	53	.321	34

Central Division

y-Cleveland 51	27	.654	—
x-Chicago 46	32	.590	5
Milwaukee 38	40	.487	13
Indiana 35	43	.449	16
Detroit 30	48	.385	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southeast Division

x-Memphis 53	25	.679	—
x-Houston 53	25	.679	—
x-San Antonio 53	26	.671	½
x-Dallas 47	31	.603	6
New Orleans 42	36	.538	11

Northwest Division

y-Portland 51	27	.654	—
Oklahoma City 42	36	.538	9
Utah			

Salvosa's 15 goals lead Dove league



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Tan Holdings Football Club's Chloe Salvosa is ahead in the Golden Boot race in the 2015 Dove Women's Football League.

As of March 31, Salvosa has earned 15 goals to lead Kanoa FC's Irish Pagarrao and Marielle Gariguez, who have gained 10 and seven, respectively.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tan Holdings Football Club's Chloe Salvosa, seen here posing for a photo with a player from a Senshu University after an exhibition game in February, leads the 2015 Dove Women's Football League's in the race for the most goals scored.

The Tan Holdings striker scored in eight of the team's nine games, recording hat-tricks twice with the first one in their opening game on Feb. 7 against MP United. Salvosa's three goals allowed Tan Holdings to force a draw against MP United.

Incidentally, Salvosa's second hat-trick was also registered against MP United on March 21 with Tan Holdings this time cruising to a 5-0 victory. Salvosa then collected two goals each in three other games (against Kanoa, Independents FC, and Paire) and added three more versus Matansa, Shirley's, and Kanoa.

Pagarrao duplicated Salvosa's two hat-tricks with the former getting her first in Kanoa's 8-2 rout of Paire on March 3 and 4-2 win over Matansa on March 14. Pagarrao's four other

goals were made against Independents (1), Matansa (2), and Tan Holdings (1).

Gariguez posted a hat-trick once during their 3-0 victory over Independents on March 24, bagged two goals in their 4-1 win over Matansa, and tallied one each versus MPU and Independents.

Meanwhile, four Shirley's players are tied for fourth place with Jeraldine Castillo, Alexa Vergara, Diana Maniacop, and Mia Carreon having six apiece. There is also deadlock for fifth place with Shirley's Diane Pablo and Tan Holdings' Mary Kay Alferos, Renita Fleming, and Jennifer Perena posting five each.

Other players who have collected multiple goals are Shirley's Marilou Gariguez (4) and Gabrielle Race (4), MP United's Michelle Masga (4), Matansa's Bernadette Horey (3), Shirley's Negahr Rastguy (3) and De Jana Muna (3), and MP United's Jayda Mendoza (3) and Karleen Reyes (3).

Muna, Omar lead batting in Belau league

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Mike Muna and Jovie Omar let their bats do the talking as they are currently on top of the batting leaders in the Belau Amateur Softball League.

Big Legals slugger Muna and his counterpart at Chagi NORF: Omar, both went 4-for-4 to log in a 1.000 batting average to lead their respective divisions.

Two City Boys players are tied at second to third with

.857 each while, IP&E teammates Ron Benavente and Mark Toves, and S.A. Master's Ben Duenas are bunched up from fourth to sixth places with .800.

Tom Camacho (Sufa) and Mark Flores (Peleliu) registered .750 each followed by the .714 of Oscar Sablan (S.A. Masters). Two batters from Mommy Charo joined Ralph Yumul (S.A. Masters) and John Pilar (Sufa) from 11th to 14th spots with .625 apiece.

IP&E's Jack Diaz and Brotherhood's Julian Camacho have a .600 average, while the latter's teammates, Ben Hocog and Kent Kalen, logged .517 each. Edgar Pangelinan completes the list at .555.

Jeff Cabrera (S.A. Masters), Ben Hocog and Ken Kaipat (Brotherhood), and Sufa's Tom Camacho had blasted two homers each, while Muna had one triple while Tom Camacho, who also had seven RBIs, joined a

City Boys batter with the most runs scored with six apiece.

Liz Lebría of Sakudi (.833);

the GSM Babes' Eddilyn Benjamin and Janesha Atalig (.750), Erlinda Naputi and Marlyn Naputi of GSM Babes and Just For Fun's Sasha Pangelinan (.600), GSM Babes' Paulin Camacho and Kuki Pangelinan and the Rookies' Brenda Camacho (.571), Bert Camacho of Sakudi, and Just For Fun trio Falisa Brel, Sumang Alana and Jen Dela Cruz, and Chagi NORF's Zena Pua (.500) joined Omar on the women's side.

Kuki Pangelinan had the most doubles with two and then joined Zena Pua, Sakudi's Thelma Mizer, and one teammate with one triple. Erlinda Naputi had already scored five runs, while Pauline Camacho blasted two homers early in the season.

Mizer and Pangelinan had the most RBIs with four apiece, while Felisa Brel and Tonet Laniyu had already recorded 10 strikeouts.

Games resume at the Dandan ballfield on Sunday after the Lenten break.

28 teams vie for semis slots in HANMI go-kart tourney

Twenty-eight squads are battling for 12 semis berths in tomorrow's 3rd Annual HANMI Go-Kart Race at the Mariana Resort Seaside Circuit.

"We have 28 teams and since last Monday, they've been competing in trial runs. After the trials, the Top 10 will advance to the semifinals, along with the two wild card entries," go-kart race chair Palik Thomson said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The semifinals will start at

9am after the 8pm opening ceremony.

"We're inviting the public to come out and watch these exciting races and other activities this Saturday at the Mariana Resort Seaside Circuit.

Besides the go-kart tournament, Mariana Resort is also hosting a carnival this Saturday and golf tournament on Sunday in celebration of its 37th anniversary.

The golf tournament has so

far lured 130 players, according to Palik, and deadline for registration is today. Hole-in-one prizes and other cash prizes await winners of the weekend tournament that has a two-person scramble format.

The carnival, on the other hand, has drawn support from private companies and community groups, which will operate food/drinks and game booths. Booths will be open from 10am to 6pm. Proceeds

from the carnival will be donated to the Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc, which is also the beneficiary of the golf fundraising tournament.

"We would like to express our gratitude to all the groups and companies participating in the carnival. We would also like to thank our donors for the golf and go-kart tournament. We will have a busy weekend and we hope everyone will have fun," Palik said. (*Roselyn B. Monroyo*)



Mariana Resort & Spa general manager Gloria Cavanaugh, back row second right, joins the As Matus Twins Saipan Little League team of manager Eliseo "Chel" Castro for a group photo yesterday at the hotel's lobby. Others in photo are Marianas Country Club operations manager Palik Thomson, back row right, property manager Charlene Babauta, second row second right, and executive chef William C. Retardo, left.

M-LEAGUE FIXTURES

MEN'S DIVISION 1

Pos	Team	MP	W	D	L	Pts	GF	GA	GD
1	Tan Holdings	7	6	0	1	18	21	10	11
2	Wild Bill's	7	5	0	2	15	26	16	10
3	MP United	6	4	1	1	13	20	9	11
4	Inter Godfather's	6	2	1	3	7	18	13	5
5	Paire	7	2	0	5	6	6	15	-9
6	KFAS	7	0	0	7	0	3	31	-28

MEN'S DIVISION 2

1	Matansa	7	5	1	1	16	21	9	12
2	Kanoa	8	5	1	2	16	22	15	7
3	Shirley's	9	3	3	3	12	20	20	0
4	Sun Palace	7	3	3	1	12	10	13	-3
5	Thundercats	8	3	2	3	11	19	12	7
6	World Resort	8	1	4	3	7	13	16	-3
7	WNT	7	0	0	7	0	12	32	-207

WOMEN'S DIVISION

1	Shirley's	8	8	0	0	24	32	2	30
2	Tan Holdings	9	5	3	1	18	26	13	13
3	MP United	9	5	1	3	16	18	21	-3
4	Kanoa	8	4	2	2	14	22	15	7
5	IFC	8	2	0	6	6	8	22	-14
6	Matansa	7	1	0	6	3	9	19	-10
7	Paire	7	0	0	7	0	4	27	-23

UPCOMING GAMES

- April 12 (Men's)
- 2pm Wild Bill's vs Inter Godfathers
- 4pm Shirley's vs MP United
- 6pm Tan Holdings vs IFC
- 8pm Matansa vs Kanoa



Magic, Oladipo spoil Rose's return in 105-103 win over Bulls
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Salvosa's 15 goals lead Dove league

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'Secure plane tickets for Pacific Games'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael White has advised Team CNMI members to start booking and securing their airplane tickets for the XV Pacific Games set from July 4 to 18 in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

White gave out several options on how the CNMI delegation would travel to Port Moresby in time for the July 4 opening ceremonies at the newly refurbished 18,000-seater Sir John



Guise Sports Complex at the capital's Wards strip.

He added that athletes, coaches, and other officials who are planning to join the games must start booking their tickets since other participating nations would also do the same and to also avoid running out of seats.

One option given by White is to fly via the Guam-Cairns-Port Moresby route, but he cautioned the delegation that Cape Air has a long history of delayed flights.

"You might want to book an

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Takumi Sugie, seen here competing in the 50m butterfly race in Guam, is among the four CNMI swimmers heading to Papua New Guinea in July for the XV Pacific Games.

Jericho pays back coach's trust

Former CNMI national team member Jericho Cruz is making up for lost time as he wanted to repay the trust given to him by Rain or Shine head coach Yeng Guiao in the Philippine



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



a foot injury, was instrumental in helping the top seeded Elasto Painters complete a three-game sweep of the Meralco Bolts in their best-of-five semifinals series in Asia's first play-for-pay league.

ROS now awaits the winner of the other playoffs pairing between Purefoods and Talk 'N Text for its finals opponent.

"This is my first finals appearance since I played here in the Philippines. The excitement is there since this is in the PBA. It's a dream come true for me," said Cruz, who regularly comes off the bench and plays tough defense against their opponents' shooters.

The 24-year-old Cruz, picked ninth overall in last year's PBA rookie draft, said Guiao giving him the playing minutes surely boosted his confidence against the league's

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KC CRUZ
Former CNMI national team member and Rain or Shine rookie Jericho Cruz pulls up for a one-handed shot against Meralco's John Wilson in Game Two of the Elasto Painters' semifinals series against the Bolts in the Philippine Basketball Association Governor's Cup last week.

Sonics nose out Ol'Aces in UFO caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Sonics pulled off a 58-56 win over the Ol'Aces in the U20 division game at the resumption of the 2015 United Filipino Organization Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Jaymark De Guzman hit the winning basket, as he drove to the right baseline in the last 3.2 seconds of the match and made the shot against Ol'Aces guard Andrew Palino. The buzzer-beating basket was set up after Gerald Flores made the inbound play and issued a pass to De Guzman, who was given a pick by big man Mii Tekopua and slipped past his defender before being challenged by Palino.

De Guzman had to save the Sonics as Jesse Santos knotted the count off his layup after the Ol'Aces sued for time in the last nine seconds of the match. De Guzman finished with only 5 points, but all of them came in the second half where the Sonics withstood the Ol'Aces repeated rallies.

baskets, and an and-1 play from Flores.

Aranda got his offensive game going, as he was not tasked to call the plays for the Sonics in the second quarter with Rabasto coming in and quarter-

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